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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

It will shortly become our duty to review the session that is coming to a close, and to offer some remarks on the Royal visit to Cherbourg while the ceremony is in the course of progress. Meanwhile, the last few weeks of a session are always comparatively uninteresting: the big questions have got disposed of; the details of smaller ones are little known except among the special interests that the measures may affect; and there is a general feeling that the work of the summer is over. Under such circumstances, we can do nothing better than survey a few of the most important topics which will employ the public till the Parliament has separated, and her Majesty's squadron is afloat on the Channel.

The Jeddah business has been taken up everywhere with the eagerness which was to be desired. The Sultan sends a force under a functionary with great power, and the French and English Governments agree in deciding on vigorous measures. We fancy that it is from the last source that the greatest satisfaction is to be hoped, for the Sultan is as weak in Arabia as in many other provinces, for practical purposes. But it is right that he should be urged on to action, and that he should act jointly with us, in order to make clear to the more barbarous Mussulmans what the real relation is now between the Porte and the West. Having been recognised as in alliance with the Western Powers, the Sultan's Government must be held responsible for, at least, some degree of civilisation wherever it claims *suzeraineté*; while, at the same time, the wilder races, at

all subject to it, must learn that we mean to enforce this necessity upon their liege. Severe punishment, after the Eastern fashion, will do some good at Jeddah, and then it may be worth while to inquire whether we ought not to have some force in these parts for the protection of European life, and as a check upon the fanatical hostility of the rabble. Our connection with these regions becomes more decided every year; Europe is encroaching upon Asia as it did under the Greeks and Romans; and it is useless to do things by halves. If it is necessary for us to have consuls at a place, their lives must be as safe as they would be at home; and the cause of civilisation and Christianity being ultimately the cause of the whole human race, nationalities and such considerations must allow for it, or be crushed by it. Yet, it is not improbable that the half-canting, half-sentimental folk who came forward to sympathise with the savages against Sir James Brooke, will be upon us before long in the cause of that noble creature the Arab.

The fact is, that, just at present, we are in collision with many races—collisions all springing out of the growth of our commerce and the spread of our empire. We are now threading our way up remote waters towards the inner cities of China, not, it would seem, as actively for our British part of the business as might be hoped, but still making an advance. It is quite impossible yet to tell what is the explanation of that inferiority in the British share of the expedition which has been so loudly insisted on this week. Perhaps it would be as well to wait till the truth is known before deciding on the business; but this is

not a very common degree of charity and justice. For our own parts, we are extremely incredulous about the inferiority of any average British fleet or admiral to a French one under any circumstances. But on the details of this expedition we wait information. At present we only mention it as illustrative of the number of struggles going on between the Governments of the North and the East, and as in that aspect fitting in with the troubles at Jeddah and the war in India.

This last war—which no doubt was connected with the last-named massacre—has assumed a new phase. Sir Colin Campbell seems to consider that four acts of his drama are over, and that the fifth may be safely postponed till after the rains, when a new life will make itself felt in the frames of his men, tried as they have been by extremes almost beyond mortals to sustain; and few, we think, will venture to impugn the policy of the only living general who could make such a policy possible against such odds. He has not finished his work, but he has, in a masterly manner, brought it to a stage at which a breathing-time is possible. Oude is not pacified, but its chief city is in our possession, and we are not threatened by anything that can be called an army. Rohilcund is tranquil. Disarming is going forward; and if—as we cannot doubt—Gwalior, with its Calpee fugitives and the traitorous soldiers of Scindia, has fallen, it is probable that a period of comparative lull may occur in our Indian news altogether. At all events, that news is far more re-assuring than there seemed reason to fear some time since. Nor is any feature of it more agreeable than the Bom-



AN IMPUDENT PUPPY.—(DRAWN BY PHIZ.)

bay accounts of the suppression of the very ominous disturbances in the southern Mahratta country.

Perhaps one of the most wholesome signs is the evident reaction in India against the ferocity with which shooting and hanging was called for some time since. One official has even been dismissed for undue severity; and the tone of the army on the subject is reflected by the letters in which Mr. Russell evidently approves of the change of sentiment. Now, this change indicates a consciousness of success, a consciousness of security; and though only people hopelessly sunk in cant will deny that the first impulse to vengeance was a sound and necessary feeling, still we ought all to be glad that it is passing away. Much and sore punishment has been inflicted; terrible examples have been made among all classes. This is all that is necessary, and therefore all that is desirable. Supposing no unexpected event to mar the fair auguries we form just now, it will soon become a question what conciliatory measures are to be adopted towards a people which we have no claim to govern if we do not attempt to consider their welfare. The India Bill once passed, the Queen's Government of India will no doubt be inaugurated by a proclamation, and such a document ought to hold forth substantial hopes of the redress of such real grievances as on proper inquiry shall be found to exist. It may seem a humiliating comparison, but man is really to be governed in some respects like the lower animals—not by indulgence, nor yet by severity only, but by a just mixture of the two.

Parliament, meanwhile, is clearing off what it can of the business of a by no means unproductive session. The Thames question has, at all events, produced a decision, and thus gratified the predominant public demand in the matter, which has all along been for "something." There was undoubtedly a temptation to wish that the Executive should itself take the job in hand, purify the river its own way, and send the country in the bill. But, after all, this is not yet the favourite English mode of disposing of difficulties; and, though we detest the common croaking against centralisation which is raised to defend local abuses and corporation jobs, still we never vote for handing anything over to Downing Street that can be decently performed elsewhere. We acquiesce, therefore, in letting the London Board of Works undertake the putting to rights of the great London river. Their existence is a farce if they cannot be trusted with such work. They are the natural body to do it, and—here comes our warning—the result will go some way towards settling the controversy between the friends of local and the friends of central government. This ought to make them do their best, and assert the natural capacity of the British trader and British vestryman.

At this period of the year, we are always apt to consider the harvest a question at least as interesting as anything connected with our foreign or domestic policy. The accounts of it seem uniformly good, which is the more satisfactory as there is still greater want of employment and slackness of trade in the country than there ought to be from ordinary calculations. Along with such reflections, it is natural to remember that a trying period in the health of the year is just coming on; that much can be done by individual care to avert the dangers from stagnant heat, closeness of streets, &c., and that it is the duty of everybody to co-operate with the authorities in checking the nuisances which are so unhappily conspicuous in many parts of our great towns.

AN IMPUDENT PUPPY.

MR. HABLOT BROWNE favours us with a sketch of an impudent puppy—we beg pardon, two impudent puppies: one human, the other strictly canine. The former is anxious to know what those little girls are carrying in that basket; the other is equally desirous of ascertaining what those young ladies are doing behind that wall. There are so many other points of resemblance between the two heroes of Mr. Hablot Browne's design, that the natural historian may almost regard them as belonging to one and the same species; and therefore, in describing the impudent puppy (or rather, we should say, the puppy alone, for what puppy is *not* impudent?), we need scarcely state whether we have in view the biped or the quadruped, for what applies to the latter applies to the former, and vice versa.

The puppy, then, is a carnivorous, herbivorous, and, in fact, omnivorous animal. He is to be found in all parts of the metropolis, but is most conspicuous at the West-end, where he is easily recognised by his long ears, his enormous collar, and his sleek coat (in the evening he wears a tail).

The puppy's head is chiefly remarkable for its hair, which was formerly observed to be long, greasy, and curled: though, in the latest specimens that we have seen, it is decidedly short.

The puppy's body is usually slim. His feet are small; his movements irregular. He is fond of hopping and dancing, but appears to walk with difficulty. He is easily fed, as he will eat anything; soles, salmon, or turbot, venison, or any kind of butcher's meat, pastry, cheese, fruit, &c. &c. He will drink whatever is given to him.

It is long before the puppy shows signs of intelligence, and some of these animals never exhibit any as long as they live. He begins at an early age to be troublesome to those around him, but fortunately he can always be kept quiet, if a piece of looking-glass be given him to play with. With this innocent toy the thorough-bred puppy can be amused and interested for hours together. In Turner's "Phryne going to the bath as Venus," there is a representation of two dogs playing with a crystal ball. "Think not," says Mr. Ruskin, "that those two dogs playing with the ball are meaningless. Dogs do not usually play with crystal balls. Turner intended you to notice them specially." Probably Turner meant us to notice that puppies are never so happy as when they are looking at themselves in the glass.

The puppy is not naturally a wild animal, although it is frequently very difficult to get him into his house until very late at night, more especially when he is young. As a proof that this wildness is by no means a general failing with puppies, we need only bring forward the fact of their wonderful liking for collars, which they long to wear at the very earliest age. Nevertheless, these dog-collars are high, stiff, sharp and cutting, and far more likely to prove fatal even than those "father-murderers" which the puppies of Germany wear. Besides it was not the German puppy, but the German puppy's sire (as the name, for the vest, sufficiently denotes), who fell a victim to the "father-murderer;" whereas the dog-collar worn by the British puppy seems calculated to lead to suicidal results.

One of the worst and most offensive specimens of the puppy is not the British or the German, but the French puppy. He is seen to somewhat more advantage, or to less disadvantage, on his native soil, than in England; but he is always a disagreeable animal whenever you meet him, though far less dangerous than he himself would appear to consider. When he makes his appearance in London he is generally to be met with in the neighbourhood of Regent Street or Leicester Square. He appears to be badly fed, and his coat, though at a distance it appears glossy, turns out on examination to be patchy and worn.

The puppy has one or two slight maladies in the course of his life, from which it appears impossible to escape altogether. Thus, all puppies appear to suffer considerable irritation shortly before their beard makes its appearance, to allay which they take every opportunity of rubbing and scraping the chin, until at last the beard fairly comes out, when the puppy appears satisfied.

Sometimes, too, the puppy is afflicted with hydrophobia, and will not touch water, though he shows the greatest readiness to imbibe all liquids containing a certain proportion of alcohol. When the illness has produced its effect he may be seen staggering about and rolling from side to side in the most alarming manner.

As soon as the puppy is old enough, he begins to manifest his well-known passion for the chase. At first he will run after anything, whatever the size or whatever the plumage, but he soon finds that this kind of sport is of no use, as all contrive to avoid him with equal success. About this period the puppy is frequently very unruly, and an application of the stick may be found advantageous, but, for the most part, it is only necessary to hold it up in order to bring him at once to order.

As the puppy becomes older and more experienced, either he becomes a thorough cur, or settles down into a quiet, well-behaved, and sometimes exceedingly jolly dog. The genuine puppy, however, becomes inevitably a cur, and never loses his habit of following. But as the cur has no sort of scent or instinct, he continues to follow all kinds of game alike. Sometimes he will succeed in catching a low bird, some black chattering magpie, but all the beautiful ones, such as the tender and timid dove, take to flight at his approach, or else some more daring and powerful bird—their natural protectors—make their appearance, and falling upon the malignant cur, injure him and drive him away.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE Paris papers have been very much engaged with the Jeddah affair, and the condition of the Ottoman empire. The "Moniteur" assures us that measures are to be taken "in common" by England and France to punish the Jeddah assassins. At the same time, indemnification, and not vengeance, is talked of. One of the French papers set about a report that the Turks had "again" attacked the Montenegrins: this is not true.

It has been decided that, during the absence of the Emperor from Paris, the Cabinet Councils shall be held under the presidency of Prince Jerome, and, in his absence, under that of Prince Napoleon. The latter personage is expected to visit Algeria about the end of September. The Algerian journals say that Prince Jerome will also arrive about the same time, and pass the winter in that country, to avail himself of the mildness of the climate.

The exhibition of Limoges—after the example of London, Dublin, and Paris—has been very successful. Prince Napoleon visited the exhibition, and was received with great enthusiasm. The effect produced upon the people by his likeness to the first Emperor seems to have been very great. The Prince's addresses on the occasion of his visit were remarkably liberal; in especial, he decried the intervention of the State in commercial affairs.

SPAIN.

CAMARILLA intrigues are talked of in Madrid; but, upon the whole, the Ministry of O'Donnell appears to be tolerably strong. At any rate, it is likely to hold office as long as any of its predecessors of the last twelve months. Spanish journalists continue to talk largely of the armies and fleets of their unhappy country, and hint at dreadful consequences to Great Britain if her Ministers speak so plainly about the slave trade.

PRUSSIA.

FROM Berlin we hear that Queen Victoria's visit is to be strictly of a family character. Notice has been given that there are to be no *fétes*, nor salutes, nor any of the demonstrations with which the visit of foreign potentates are usually welcomed. In consequence of this change in the programme, we are told, "serious fears are entertained for the health of the Princess Frederick-William." "Le Nord" says, too, that "the physicians having expressed doubts on the possibility of Princess Frederick-William undertaking the journey to Coblenz, it is very probable that Queen Victoria will visit her daughter at the Castle of Babelsberg, at Potsdam." We in England have no reason to believe that there is any foundation for alarm, beyond the fact that the Princess is likely to become a mother by and by.

RUSSIA.

ACCORDING to the "Ost Deutsch Post," the Russians have received a very severe check in Daghestan and Lighistan. "With 5,000 regulars, 10,000 irregulars, two heavy and as many light field batteries, they last month attempted to obtain possession of some highly important defiles near Koodo Loda. The place was taken by storm by four battalions of the line and 6,000 irregulars, and Sultan Daniel and his followers retreated in disorder. The Russians, being elated by their victory, entered the pass, and, while cooking, were surprised by the mountaineers. After losing 1,800 men and eight guns the Russians retreated in the greatest disorder to Kassar, but they could not maintain their position there, and fell back on Scirvan."

We hope the report is well founded which states that the Czar Alexander has not only withdrawn the decree prohibiting Bible Societies, but has actually given them a subscription of 25,000 roubles. We hear, too, that the Polish language is to be used in the schools of Lithuania, which was forbidden by the Emperor Nicholas.

ITALY.

AMICABLE relations are re-established between the French in Rome and the Papal troops.

The Piedmontese Government has been strengthened by recent elections. Out of thirteen contents, twelve ended in the return of Ministerial candidates.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

THERE is nothing but trouble in our advices from Turkey. Proofs of the fanatical spirit which has seized the Mussulman populations are almost too numerous to instance. Every hour seems to add to the instability of the Sultan's empire, and not only are the endeavours of Europe to restore order embarrassed, but these latter dissensions increase the danger of dissension amongst "the Powers." There are troubles in Bosnia, in Bagdad, in the Herzegovina—everywhere: even at Mecca, where the religious authority of the Sultan is denied by a new and fast-increasing sect of "True Believers." The news from Bosnia is, that the Turks made a razzia, and in the course of forty-eight hours seized 180 young Christian girls. Afterwards they commenced a regular course of massacre and pillage. The Christians, unable to defend themselves, took refuge in the Austrian territory. After placing the women and children in safety, they returned, and, attacking the Turkish camp, strove to renew the combat with the arms they found there. But they were again defeated and driven in disorder over the Austrian frontier to the number of 6,000. It is impossible to guess how all this may end.

The Sultan is reported to be in very ill health.

AMERICA.

THERE is no political news of interest from America. The principle and practice of the right of search was regarded as abandoned by Great Britain, and the steamers *Water Witch* and *Arctic* were ordered home. The Government had resolved to despatch an efficient naval force to Nicaragua to protect American citizens there, "and insure the opening of the transit route to the commerce of the world."

Independence Day was celebrated throughout the Union with great spirit. There were, as usual, many casualties from the free use of gunpowder, but nothing of a very serious nature.

Owing to apprehended troubles with the savage tribes of Oregon, the War Department had decided to send a portion of the Utah army to that territory. From Utah itself the news is still doubtful and unimportant.

SPECULATION in ST. PETERSBURG seems to have reached fever height. The shares of a new fire insurance company were literally fought for recently, and thousands were disappointed in obtaining them.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

THE following telegraphic message was received at the Foreign Office on Saturday evening:—

"Thirteen thousand of the rebels, who left Calpee on the 22nd of May, reached Gwalior on the 1st of June; they were joined by 7,000 of Scindia's troops, sent out to oppose them. They took possession of Gwalior, and plundered it. Scindia escaped to Agra. The force under Sir Hugh Rose, from Calpee, the division under Brigadier H. H. from Jhansi, the column under Colonel Smith, from Chumbera, &c., all by this time before Gwalior. There is a report, probably true, that the place has fallen, with tremendous loss to the insurgents."

"Sir Edward Lugard defeated the rebels at Guadepore (Jodhpore) on the 27th of May, and recovered the guns lost at Arrah."

"A rising near Dharewar has been extinguished by the capture of the forts of Kopol and Nargunder."

"Manson, the political agent, who had gone out to confer with the Chief of Nurgund, was murdered. The Chief of Nurgund, who caused the murder, has been hanged at Belgaum, with others; a severe blow from a gun."

"Rohilund is quiet."

"The people of Lucknow beginning to come in. Disarming proceeds quietly on both sides of India."

"The disarmed sepoy regiments in Bengal have been discharged in small parties; the native officers, and those in Bombay have been dismissed; the number of their regiments blotted from the army list."

"The rains have not yet commenced; they are nearly a fortnight behind, and the weather is most oppressive."

THE NURGUND AFFAIR.

WE have details of the rising of the Mahratta Chief of Nurgund. It is the old story. The Chief of Nurgund was without male heirs; the Government refused to sanction his adoption of a son, and the result, which had been in his family two hundred years, was to lapse to the Company at his death. He could not, it seems, withstand the solicitations of evil-minded men, and in an unhappy hour, changed into a cowardly crime, and has expired it on the gallows. It is useless to console ourselves, that an impression exists widely in India that the Government is actuated only by rapacity in its decisions in such cases. The southern Mahratta country is disquieted simply by this question of disputed titles and successions.

SCINDIA'S DEFEAT.

ON the morning of the 1st of June, a large body of rebels and mutineers from Calpee and other places—estimated variously at from 5,000 to 11,000 men, with twelve guns—marched from Gwalior, and found the Maharajah awaiting their assault in a position to the eastward of the Morar cantonment of the old Centingent. Scindia had under his orders 600 of his body-guard, horse and foot, 6,000 infantry, and eight guns. He had drawn up his force in three divisions, the body-guard in the centre. Scarcely had the action commenced when his left division went over bodily to the enemy. Soon the right division followed their example. The centre alone stood firm, and, in spite of the overwhelming superiority of their assailants, commenced, and for a while maintained, an orderly retreat; but the unequal struggle could not last long. Borne down by the weight of the enemy's charge, they were broken and dispersed, leaving half their numbers on the field, and all their guns, which they had striven with bravery to preserve. Scindia, seeing the day was lost, rode straight off the ground for Dholpore, on the road to Agra, followed for some fifteen miles by 200 or 300 of the enemy's troopers. Distancing his pursuers, he reached and crossed the Chumbul in safety, and halted at Dholpore, whence, on the morning of the 3rd, a party of horse, sent out for the purpose from Agra, escorted him, not a little crestfallen, into the cantonments of that city. Into Gwalior, thus deserted, the rebel force marched. The Lushkur, or standing camp, and the town, were given over to plunder; the fort—either at once or after a short defence or parley—was occupied. To the musnud vacated by the flight of the Maharajah was elevated one Rao Sahib, nephew of the so-called Peshwa, Nana Sahib, of Bithoor. The uncle was not with the force, though rumours of his presence were at first abroad, and were too credulously believed. It was Tania Topce's bolder and more unassuming spirit that planned and executed the capture of Gwalior.

A correspondent, speculating on the chance of the re-capture of Gwalior, says:—"The fort of Gwalior is built upon a rock rising abruptly from the plain to the height of about 300 feet. It would be difficult to storm, but is very easily bombarded, the guns from the walls not being capable of sufficient depression to command morar batteries under them. The mischief for the enemy is, that though it might for a little space be held by them, if they once enter it they can never get out again. We have only to guard the entrance and keep pounding away from under cover, when the garrison must either capitulate, or be extinguished by us without so much as the gratification of a sortie."

TREACHERY AMONGST THE GOORKHAS.

"I stated some time back," says Mr. Russell, of the "Times," "that the Goorkhas would march down to the main trunk road as the best way of approaching Nepal without any chance of hostile encounter. Captain Plowden's report on the subject left nothing doubtful, but for some reason or other, to us unknown, the plan was changed, and the Nepaules actually crossed the Gogra as soon as Goruckpore was free, and are now near their native hills. The most unfavourable reports as to their language and demeanour have reached the Government, and have appeared in the public prints; and it is openly asserted that our allies have all but fraternised with the rebels on several occasions. Looking at the part they have played, one cannot but come to the conclusion that Lord Canning's first impulse was right, and that we had done better had we fought our battles without soliciting the co-operation of the Nepaules in the field."

REST FOR OUR INDIAN ARMY.

THE army which has toiled so long and so successfully against the force of the great rebellion, which seems at last to have expended its energies, and to have languished into a Pindaree war, is about to rest from its labours, and to take much needed shelter from the sun and the rains, while the veterans recruit their strength and the young learn discipline in the season of forced repose which awaits them. There will be no respite, indeed, for the Chief or for his Chief of the Staff, and but little for the heads of departments, inasmuch as the distribution of the troops, the hutting and barrack accommodation of the regiments, &c., must occupy much of their attention, to say nothing of the measures necessary for the repression of such attempts as the enemy may be induced to make against our stations and lines of communication during the rains, and of the plans for the future prosecution of the campaign.

RE-CAPTURE OF GWALIOR.

THE following telegram, from Acting-Consul Green to the Earl of Malmesbury was received at the Foreign Office on Thursday, at 4.45 p.m.:—

Alexandria, July 18.

"The steamer *Candia* arrived at Suez yesterday.
"The forces under Sir H. Rose had re-taken Gwalior, after a severe fight of four hours, on the 20th of June."

CHINA.

WE learn by telegram that on the 20th of May the forts at the mouth of the Peiho, mounting 133 guns, backed by a large body of troops, were attacked by the English and French gunboats, and taken with trifling loss on our side. The Chinese stood to their guns very fairly. On the 22nd the force commenced advancing up the river. Weather cool, and squadron in excellent health and spirits. Six thousand French troops, originally destined for Cochin China, are on their way to the Gulf of Peechee. At Canton, on the 2nd of June, an attempt was made, without any good effect, to rout the *braves* on the mountains in the vicinity. Ningpoo is in possession of the rebels, and the English merchants on board her Majesty's ship *Surprise*.

THE CASE OF LADY LYTTON.

ANOTHER SERIOUS RAILWAY COLLISION.—On Monday, a serious railway accident occurred on the London and North-Western Railway, at Longwood, near Huddersfield. A train of coal wagons arrived at this station, and had shunted two trucks while the engine was being turned from the points on to the main line, when the passenger train from Leeds to Manchester ran into the wagons. The train was due at Longwood at 1.35 p.m., but was about eight minutes late; and the danger signal light was put on while the coal wagons were being shunted, but the driver of the passenger train was busied with some disarrangement of his engine, and did not notice the signal. The force of the collision was such that the engine was seriously damaged, and three third-class carriages much injured, the whole of the carriages of the compartments being forced out. One truck and the guard-van were smashed to atoms. Upwards of twenty persons were more or less injured (some very seriously) and one was not expected to recover.

men were joint owners of a vessel carrying the English flag; and one of them having some grievance against the British Consul, constituted himself a subject of the Porte, and replaced the English flag by Ottoman colours. The other hastened to the British Consul, protesting against his partner's act, and the Consul, accompanied by fifteen sailors of the *Cyclops*, went on board the Jeddah vessel, and ordered the British ensign to be hoisted. This gave great dissatisfaction, as (it seems) the Ottoman flag was hoisted by consent of the local authorities. The mob became infuriated, and, entering the houses of the French and English Consuls, burnt and otherwise destroyed everything they could lay their hands on, ending by the murder of the inmates.

It was at sunset on the 15th of June that the house of the English Vice-Consul was attacked. The mob seized the Consul, wounded him grievously, and then flung him, still alive, from the window into the street, where a crowd of fanatics hacked his body to pieces. The house was then pillaged; the servants and two dragomen were assassinated, and the archives of the consulate burnt. While this horrible scene was going on, similar crimes were committed at the French consulate. The Consul (M. Eveillard) was attacked by a band of ruffians who penetrated into the house by the windows, and fell mortally wounded by several sabre cuts. His wife was killed by a dagger-wound in her breast, after having defended herself courageously, killed the murderer of her husband, and wounded several others.

"Her daughter," says one account, "succeeded in escaping by a secret door. In the next room were the Chancellor of the consulate, and his servant. The latter is a Mussulman, an old soldier, who formerly served in a battalion of native Algerines. These two men and the Consul's young daughter defended themselves so heroically that the murderers retreated for a moment; they soon returned to the charge, but this time employed a stratagem. A Hadramite, an acquaintance of the Chancellor's, approached him, and said, 'Come out—come with me; I wish to save you from certain death.' Confiding in these promises, the brave young man quitted the room; he was instantly struck with a poniard, which only slightly wounded him in the arm. Thrown down by the blow, his throat was seized by the assassin, and he was on the point of perishing, when Mlle. Eveillard, the Consul's daughter, threw herself on the assassin, and bit him so deeply in the hand that he was forced to let go. Thereupon another of these wretches attacked the courageous young girl, and gave her a sabre cut across the face. She fell senseless, but the Chancellor, who had regained his feet, inflicted a blow on the last assassin. Meanwhile, the Chancellor's servant had killed three of the miscreants, wounded several others, and so succeeded in covering the flight of the Consul's daughter, of the Chancellor, and of a servant, who all arrived the same evening, in company with the brave soldier, at the residence of the Consul-General of France, in Alexandria."



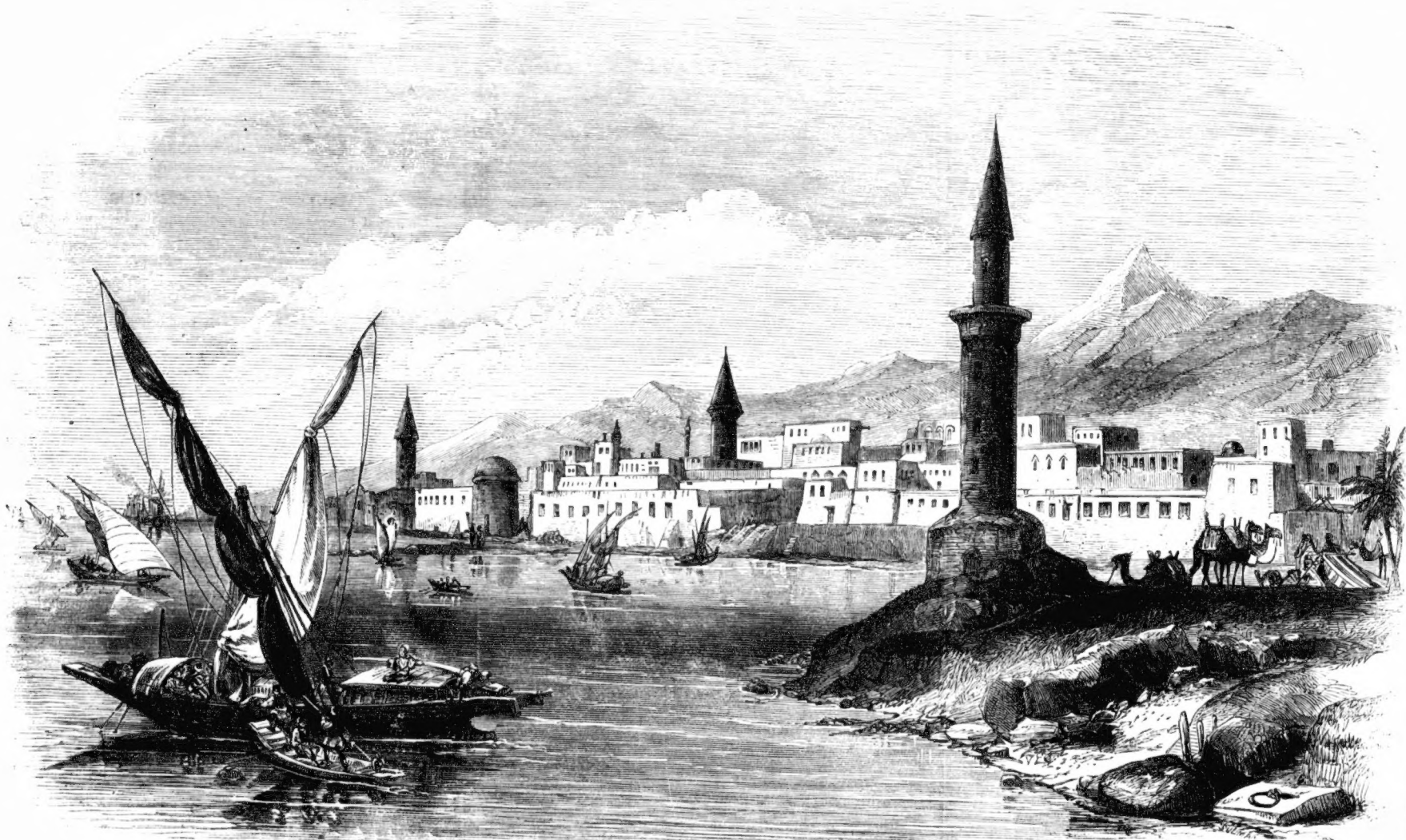
SIR JOHN INGLIS, THE DEFENDER OF LUCKNOW.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.)

While this carnage was going on in the consulates, the Christians were assailed in the streets of Jeddah, and massacred. Some, however, succeeded in escaping under cover of the night, and, throwing themselves into the sea, swam to the English steam despatch-boat which was at anchor in the port. All the other Christians, to the number of forty-five, were killed and hacked in pieces. The number of Mussulmans who took part in the massacre is estimated at 5,000.

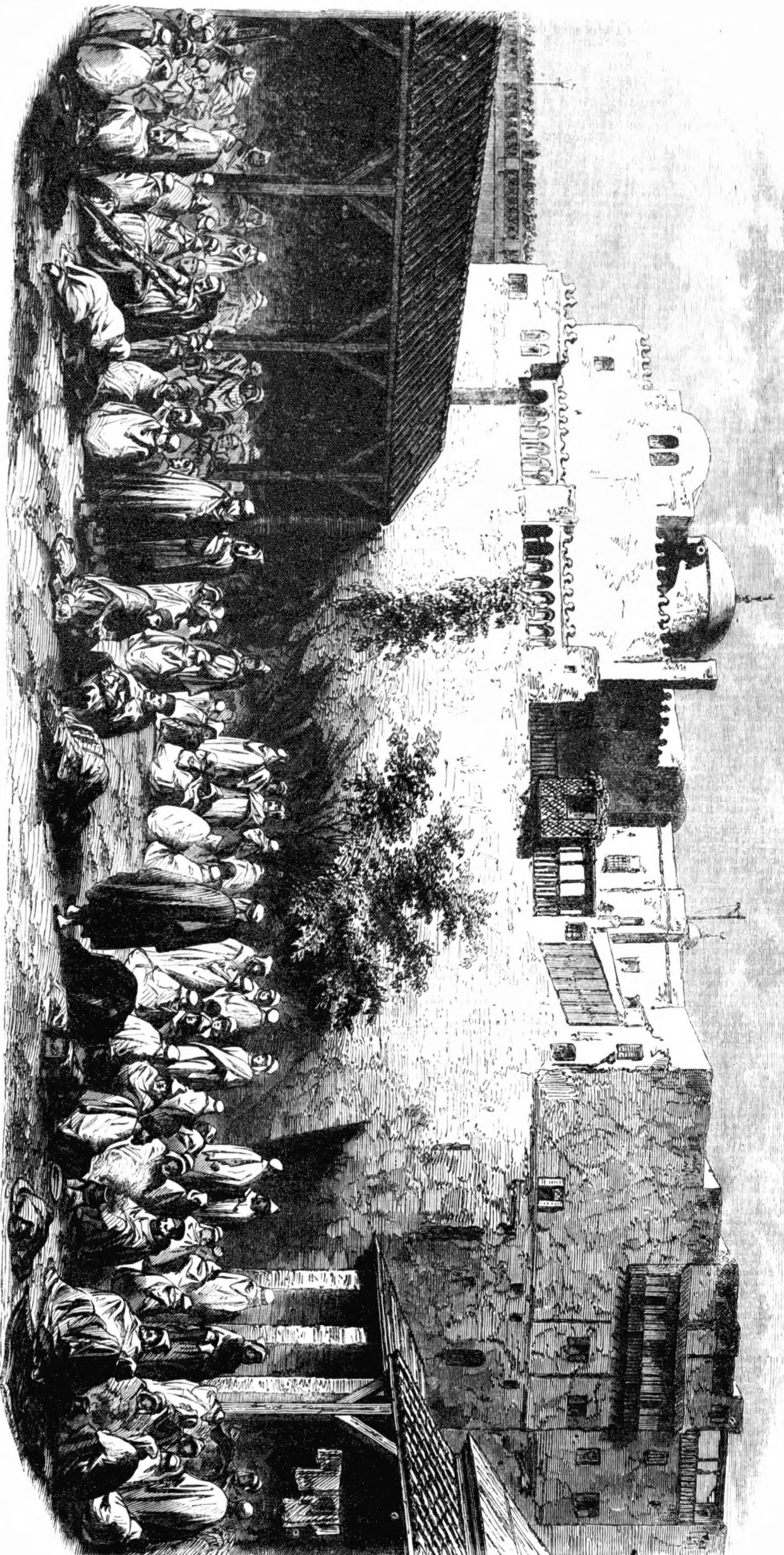
The *Cyclops* was off the port. Indeed, two of her officers were in the town that day, leaving the shore for the ship at about six o'clock. At about ten o'clock, two Greeks swam off, with the news that there was a disturbance in the town, and that they had come off to save their lives. Early next morning, two others swam off; and then the captain of the *Cyclops* first learned the extent of the catastrophe. Accordingly, he pulled to the town in his gig, accompanied by the cutter, the crews being armed.

They pulled in as usual, but when they approached some Turkish soldiers warned them off, and immediately after they were fired on by the Arabs on shore, who thought that our boats were unarmed, as usual. The boats turned to get out, but what was their surprise to see 400 or 500 Arabs on the reefs close around. They pulled straight on, keeping their arms out of sight; but, at a narrow passage, which they were obliged to pull through, the Arabs made a set at them with swords, sticks, and stones, a few only having fire-arms; but our men, with their rifles and revolvers, soon made the passage clear. One Arab, whilst in the act of throwing an immense stone at the captain's head, was knocked over by a shot from a revolver. Two others were killed, and four wounded. The town was in possession of the Arabs: the Governor was at Mecca with the troops under his command, and had left only 100 men in garrison. It was resolved, therefore, by the captain of the *Cyclops*, not to attack the town; as, if he failed in bringing off any surviving Christians, they would certainly be killed.

But on the 19th the governor, who had been sent for from Mecca, arrived with 800 troops, and in some measure restored order. Miss Eveillard and other rescued Europeans were transferred on board the *Cyclops*. The crew and marines were afterwards landed with the British and French colours, and marched through the town; and then to the graves where the murdered Christians lay. An English officer writes: "On the morning of the 20th, nearly all the ship's company were landed and marched through the town, past the English and French consulates, both of which places were nearly razed to the ground. At the French consulate I formed my men into a funeral party, and with the chaplain and ship's company following proceeded to the burial-ground, a small spot of ground set apart especially for the Christian inhabitants of the town, where the funeral service was read over their remains, after which, according to custom, I fired three volleys over their graves, and thus ended this frightful massacre. This was our only revenge, marching round the town; revenge for the



VIEW OF JEDDAH, THE SCENE OF THE LATE MASSACRE.



PILGRIMS AT ALGIERS ON THEIR WAY TO MECCA.

death of our English representative. You can imagine how savage we were: all the ship's company to a man came aft, and asked to be led against the town. Then marching through the town, and seeing the murderers within an arm's length of you, and not able to touch them! One black fellow got in my way as I was walking along at the head of my men, and I could not resist hitting him with the flat of my sword." There can be no doubt, however, that a full measure of reparation will be demanded—and obtained. Indeed, the Porte has already sent to Jeddah a corps of 2,000 men, for the purpose of inflicting exemplary chastisement on the assassins of the French and English consuls; and it is said that orders have been sent to the French commandant of the naval division in the Chinese seas to despatch two ships of war at once to the Red Sea.

One little bit of French romance we have in connection with this hideous affair. We read that M. Moreau, of the French consulate, whose life was saved by Mohammed Elvallah, was so much touched, that "as a recompense, the young lady, he betrothed himself to her." The Empress Eugénie developed that she will be a mother to this fortunate young woman, and prize her as a valuable marriage portion. It is further reported that the Turkish ambassador at the Court of Paris has informed Count Walewski and Lord Cowley that the Porte is ready to pay to M. Moreau, by way of indemnity, a sum of 150,000 francs. A similar sum is offered to the family of Mr. Page, the English vice-consul.

We give our readers a view of the town where the dastardly massacre was perpetrated. Jeddah is built along the shore in the form of a parallelogram, extending almost due north and south. From the sea it has a poor appearance; only a few minarets rise above the houses, which present a long line of mean buildings. From the sea there is no entrance except through the shabby irregular courts of the custom-house, which are littered with lazy *employés* and bales of coffee and gum. The gate is at the end of a wide street, one side of which is occupied by a palace built by the former sheriff, Gholeb, and is lined on either side by a dark row of coffee-shops, which are filled from morning to night with crowds of idlers all smoking the marghileh. The bazaar, principally composed of wooden booths, runs almost at right angles to this street, leaving in the centre only a narrow passage often obstructed by camels and their loads. The shops are poorly furnished—more than one-half of them retail rubbish; the rest of them display coarse china, porcelain, or European cutlery—the venerable willow pattern

predominant on the English ware—cottons, cornelian beads and rosaries. Two or three shops sell Indian and Syrian silks. The crowd which fills the street forms a most interesting sight, on account of the number of different races whose representatives compose it—Turks, nomad Arabs, Meccans, Persians, Afghans, Indians, blacks of every shade, with features varying from the Jewish to the negro type. Behind the bazaar lies the town, composed of tortuous and narrow streets, in which are a few houses with curiously-carved lattices and beautiful doors of teak; the greater number, though lofty, are externally mean, and in their interior confined and shabby.

Of all the towns in the East none has so distinctive a physiognomy as Jeddah; it is even more oriental than Damascus, though as striking for its ugliness as Damascus for its beauty. A most unpleasant sight to the English eye are the crowds of poor Indians, who litter in the streets like dogs. These Indians are pilgrims who have returned here from Mecca, but being destitute of means to continue their journey, live on a life of squalid idleness. According to the most probable calculation, the number of houses, large and small, may be about 4,000, and the population perhaps reaches 20,000, of whom some 1,500 are Indians.

In the preceding article reference is made to Algiers in connection with Mecca, pilgrimages and the Jeddah massacre. The engraving above is a faithful picture of the halt of a band of pilgrims at Algiers, on their way to the city of the Prophet. To make a pilgrimage to Mecca is the desire of every true Mussulman. The respect entertained for those who have accomplished this enterprise is sufficient to excite emulation; and the hope of commercial gain adds its persuasion to religious zeal. It is much to make *hadj* or pilgrimage; it is much also to smuggle excisable articles, duty free.

On the way to or from Mecca, Arab pilgrims present strange, motley, but at the same time most picturesque gatherings. Their peculiarly graceful costume, enlivened by so many different colours, their arms, and sometimes their richly-caparisoned horses and heavily-laden camels, make up a picture which only one pencil—Horace Vernet's—can do full justice to. Our engraving represents a scene recently witnessed in the court-yard of the Custom-house, at Algiers. The pilgrims meet here to pay the duty on the various goods they have collected during their journey; many of them, however, have not the means of paying the duty until they have found merchants for their merchandise; so

that many of them remain in the custom-house sheds until they succeed in disposing of some portion of their goods, and thus be enabled to clear the remainder. "Nearly the whole of these pilgrim merchants," says our artist, "are old men who seem to have lost all their energies, for during the whole day they squat about as I have represented them in my sketch, while many roll themselves in their burnous like mummies, and sleep through the long hours of the day beneath the rays of a burning sun. Towards evening their simple meal is prepared and eaten in silence; chibouques and coffee are again passed round, the Koran read, and future journeys planned. During the night, the custom-house authorities are obliged to keep the most vigilant eye over their movements, or they will contrive, with that cunning peculiar to Orientals, to possess themselves of some portion of the detained merchandise, secrete it about their persons, and carry it off at daybreak when they go to the market for provisions."

THE MUSULMAN OUTRAGE IN CANDIA.—We gather the following particulars of this atrocious affair from late information. The Greek who fell a victim to the rage of the populace had been already condemned to die for murdering a Mussulman; but, according to established law, was detained in prison till the order for execution had arrived from Constantinople. The infuriated Moslems demanded his instant death. Ahmet Pacha, admiral, who, up on the disgrace of the Governor, Vely Pacha, had taken all authority into his hands, though the new governor had not yet arrived, resolved to execute the Greek forthwith. Vely Pacha strongly opposed such a concession to the rabble—such a departure from the law. Other authorities joined the ex-governor in his remonstrances. While the matter was being debated, a volley of musketry was heard in the streets. This resolved the admiral, who cried, "Let the Greek be given up, strangled, and dragged round the market-place." He had scarcely uttered these words, when his servants made a rush to the prison, followed by the populace. A rope was wanted, and an officer of the imperial navy, the chief of the admiral's staff, cut a cord from a trunk and gave it to the rioters. In an instant they broke open the prison doors, and dragged out the Greek, who, hurried to his death by twenty executioners disputing for precedence, was in a few moments a corpse. The body, to which were attached the chains of a gally-slave, which clanked lugubriously as it moved along, was then dragged by a band of negroes and hideous children along the quays and streets for two hours, the rioters halting in front of the Consulates, and crying out, "Hurrah! Let us show these dogs that we also know how to obtain what we ask for." Subsequently, "An old servant of Mustapha Pacha, Emin-Agha, having been adjured by Vely Pacha to see the body buried at whatever risk to himself, went alone and took it in his arms, all bloody and disfigured, to the hospital. It was at last decently interred, a priest and about ten courageous Christians following it to the grave."

THE GUILLOTINE IN ALGIER.—Some time ago, seven Arabs were condemned to death by the Court of Assizes of Constantine, for the murder of a French colonist, named Gibson, and his wife, and the attempted murder of their aunt and daughter. Two of the seven had their sentence commuted; the others—Aly, Saad, Mehenni, Embareck, and Koreichi—were left to their fate. Aly was first executed. On seeing his head fall, an Arab chief, who was on horseback, fainted, and fell to the ground; while the great mass of natives, seized with panic, ran away in all directions. This is explained by the horror the natives have of the French system of execution, in which the head is completely severed from the body. By their own system, which is effected by swords, the neck is never entirely cut through, in order to enable the Prophet to take the true believer, by the tuft of hair which is left on the crown of the head, and raise him up bodily into paradise—a mercy which no rogue can hope for who passes under the guillotine. The execution of Saad, Mehenni, and Embareck, which followed that of Aly, presented no remarkable incident; but Koreichi, who was almost overwhelmed with emotion, was so horror-stricken on seeing on the scaffold the dead bodies of his accomplices, that he made a faint attempt to break away. The execution of the whole five men was accomplished in seven minutes.

A MODEST PROPOSAL.—The "New York Herald" advises the Emperor of the French to seize Hayti. It says:—"Sixty years of freedom have carried the Haytian empire back to barbarism, and made the fertile fields of St. Domingo a wilderness. The skill and energy of the white race have abandoned the island, the negroes have been reduced to a quasi state of slavery by their own kind, who lord it over them under the copied titles of emperors, dukes, counts, and lords; the mechanic arts are nearly lost among them; production has fallen almost to its minimum point, and the entire community does not present one redeeming point for the future. France now holds a mortgage over Hayti of some 180,000,000 or 200,000,000 of francs, which will never be paid. In view of this state of things we advise Louis Napoleon to send out a portion of the fleet and army he has prepared, and take possession of the once rich colony so foolishly thrown away by the first French Directory. By so doing he will do a great good to civilisation, give employment to the armament that now alarms Europe, and augment the power of France with a colony containing thirty thousand square miles of territory, and capable of unlimited expansion in an industrial sense. To such a course, on the part of France, there can be only one objection. This is found in the possible opposition the step might encounter from the United States. But such an opposition can be easily overcome by combining with it the true necessities of this country. We do not want St. Domingo upon any terms. Our political theories and institutions are unfitted for the black races there, and we could never by their operation reduce those races to the only position they are fitted to hold in the community. But the highest exigencies of this country, both in a military and commercial sense, require that Cuba shall become a part of our political system. We have consented for a time that weak and impoverished Spain should hold it, but the time is rapidly approaching when the feeling of national security and the necessities of national defence will imperiously demand that it shall unite with this Union."

ABORTIVE ATTEMPT TO SHUFFLE OFF THE MORTAL COIL.—A French man, M. Antoine X., a man of independent fortune, had long suffered from rheumatism, and at length resolved to commit suicide. First he ordered a coffin, saying it was for a friend exactly his own size. He then went home, wrote his will, put eighty francs in a shoe to pay for the coffin, wrote invitations to his friends to attend his funeral, and laid in a stock of provisions for their refreshment. The next step was to have a warm bath brought to his bed-room; he got into the bath, and made several incisions in his legs with a razor. The blood flowed freely; but no artery was touched, and the process became tedious. Moreover, with the loss of blood the desire of death passed away. He called for assistance; his neighbours rushed in, and found him very much exhausted. "I was anxious to die," he said, "but God would not allow it, and I now implore your aid." Medical assistance was procured; the poor man's wounds were dressed; and he went to bed, and slept soundly. On awaking he partook of his "funeral baked meats," and declared himself much better.

TOO BAD.—"I have only two more facts to record as Continental news," says the Paris correspondent of the "Globe." "A parrot in the faubourg of St. Germain, whose age is ascertained beyond doubt to be over sixty years, has actually laid an egg; and Austria has launched from the stocks at Pola, in the Adriatic, a 90-gun ship of the line."

A LION IN THE WAY.—As the diligence which plies between Guelma and Bona, in Algeria, was proceeding along the road near the village of Penthièvre, the horses suddenly reared up, and refused to advance. The driver now perceived a gigantic lion seated in the middle of the road. He at once informed the passengers, who, filled with consternation, lighted chemical matches and burned paper. This produced no effect on the lion, for the light of the moon was so strong that it paralysed the glare of the flames. The consternation momentarily increased until the animal relieved them by walking slowly away.

A NEW MILITARY MANŒUVRE.—The following extraordinary manœuvre was performed at the Champ de Mars a few days since. During some evolutions under General Melinet, 200 men of the 2nd Regiment of Grenadiers, were ordered to swim across the Seine, firing at the same time on the opposite shore. The movement was very well executed, and no accident took place.

VALUABLE SALVAGE.—On Saturday morning a fire occurred at Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, occupied by three families,—those of Madam Paniska, the Countess Millelaque, and Mr. Anderson an architectural draughtsman. About £13,000 in notes, gold, and jewellery, belonging to the Countess, were saved. The flames spread with amazing rapidity and Madam Suppus, one of the inmates, was so severely burnt that she was conveyed to St. George's Hospital.

THE LEVIATHAN'S DIFFICULTIES.—The proprietors of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, held a meeting on Monday to consider their financial difficulties. These appear to be as great as ever. The directors have failed to obtain funds to pay off existing liabilities, and get the ship afloat. In this strait they applied to the Government for assistance; suggesting that they (the Government) might make a loan of £250,000 on the mortgage of the ship, or that they should have the vessel for their own purposes at a fair valuation. No good to the company came of this application. The meeting ultimately agreed to leave the question of raising further capital to a committee, who would deliberate with the directors and report to the shareholders. During the discussion, it was said that the cost of fitting out the ship solely for the purpose of laying down the Atlantic cable would be about £60,000, but to this £25,000, the amount of the company's liabilities, would have to be added.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, NO. 82.

MR. AYTON.

LAST year we sat up to the verge of September. This year we shall be gone, in all probability, before August begins—a clear month earlier than last year. There is nothing to keep us now but the "Corrupt Practices at Election Bill," a measure which, in some shape, we must get through, as it is a substitute for an Act which expires this year. The "Corrupt Practices Bill" is only a temporary one. Next session we are promised a permanent measure by the Government. The peculiar feature of this bill is, that it legalises the payment of the voter's travelling expenses. The clause of the bill which enacts this met with a sturdy opposition, but it was carried by a majority of 165 against 70. We look upon this retrograde step as one of those wonderful freaks in which the House sometimes indulges. And we can hardly doubt that, in its sober moments, it will show its regret by abolishing a plan which is fraught with nothing but corruption and mischief. We owe it to Mr. Ayrton, the member for the Tower Hamlets, that no money is to be given to the voter. The money for travelling expenses is to be paid to the railway company or to whoever may bring the voter to the poll. Mr. Ayrton, who, when fresh returned, was noted for talking on every subject, has now quietly settled down into a more useful member of Parliament. The Honourable Member will never be an orator, nor will he ever be able, in great party debates, to take a prominent part with effect. This is not his forte. His talents are of quite another sort, though perhaps not less useful. His aim is to act the part of a watch-dog. He diligently hunts over the bills which are introduced; and his sagacity and clear-headedness enable him to pounce upon a wrong principle, an anomaly, or contradiction, as if by instinct. If any honourable member wishes covertly to smuggle an enactment through the House, woe to him if Mr. Ayrton gets hold of the bill. A covey of partridges in a stubble field might as well expect to escape the notice of a thorough-bred pointer, as any honourable member may hope that a job will escape detection when Mr. Ayrton is on the scent. Mr. Ayrton generally has a bill in his hand or in his pocket; and we suspect that, when at home, he passes no small portion of his time in examining bills. And yet, though the Member for the Tower Hamlets, what with this self-imposed duty, and the numerous other claims which press upon him, as the member for the populous borough which he represents—the letters which he has to answer, the deputations which he has to meet, the meetings where he has to attend—has his hands full, he never seems to be in a hurry. *Festine Lente* appears to be his motto. He is always cool and calm. Never flurried, never fussy—but walks in and out of the House, chats with the members, and his constituents who call upon him in the lobby, as if he were the idliest member in the House. But when he is wanted he is always in his place, and always ready. In short, he fulfils the old proverb which tells us that "The most industrious men are never busy." When Mr. Ayrton first came to the House, for a time we stood in doubt of him, but we are now free to confess that the Tower Hamlets have, in him, sent us a very useful and valuable man. "I wish," said a small farmer once to an aristocratic friend of ours, "I could speak like you." "My dear friend," was the reply, "you can do better—you can plough a field." And so with Mr. Ayrton. He cannot "shake the arsenal and fulmine over Greece," nor "wield the fierce democracy" by his eloquence, but he can do as well, if not better. Mr. Ayrton is a lawyer, and the son of a lawyer, though we doubt whether he practises now. The place of the Honourable Member in the House is below the gangway, on the Opposition side. In his manner of speaking from his first appearance, he was as cool and self-collected as if he had been accustomed to address the House from his youth. Last year attempts were sometimes made to put him down by clamour, but all such attempts were useless. He was neither excited nor impetuous, nor would he be put down by these interruptions. "That's a cool hand," we heard a funny member say once, "that Tower Hamlets man; you might as well fire against a mud-bank as try to put him down." But nobody tries this game now, and, indeed, few wish to try; for, in the first place, he does not speak so often as he did last year, and, second, the House has learned that he has something to say. Some men look upon Mr. Ayrton as a bore—but it is only they who come for excitement or fun—men whose notion of the House is, that it is an arena for party gladiators to struggle in, or a theatre where farces are performed.

THE JEW BILL.

On Friday, the 17th, we received Lord Lucan's famous measure for settling the great Jew question. Of course it was introduced into the House by Lord John Russell, but on this occasion my Lord did not make a speech, thinking, no doubt, that on this question there had been already speaking enough; and it seemed for a time as if everybody in the House thought the same, for when Lord John sat down there was a pause. At length, however, Mr. Newdegate arose to give this godless measure one parting kick, and finally to lift up his testimony against the removal of the last shred of Christianity which was left to cover the almost naked infidelity of our Legislature. When Mr. Newdegate sat down there was another pause, and the Speaker actually arose and put the question, and had got as far as the word "Ayes" in the sentence so familiar to our ears—"The Ayes have it," and the House was congratulating itself that we should have no debate; but it was not to be so—for just at this moment Mr. Spooner, moved with indignation at the coolness with which we were about to "un-Christianise our Legislature," was seen to lift his awful form; and again his stentorian voice was heard like that of a prophet of old, crying aloud, "Woe! woe! to those who were prepared to 'sacrifice all religion to the dire and wicked principle of expediency.'" And then after him Mr. Bentinck took up the song and chanted the old refrain—Mr. Bentinck, who, amongst all the changes, and modifications, and falling away from the good old ways, is still "faithful amongst the faithless found." But solemn, and serious, and indubitably sincere as these solemn "prophets in Israel" were in their deliverances, the House, sad to say, was in no humour to listen, for during the utterance of these solemn protests, it cried, "oh! oh!" and "vide, vide" unceasingly, so that but few of the prophetic sentences came full and unbroken upon their ears; but at last Mr. Drummond arose, and all was silent in a moment, as it always is when this singular and eccentric gentleman gets upon his legs. And no wonder that it is so, for with all Mr. Drummond's eccentricities, he is sure to say something worth listening to, and not unfrequently something that is worth remembering too. Mr. Drummond, of course, does not admire the measure which is to admit Jews into Parliament. His notions of Church and State are of the mediæval sort: and he does not scruple to say, that, by the adoption of all this mock liberality of modern times, the House and the nation are fast travelling to destruction. On this occasion, Mr. Drummond was unusually serious and prophetic, and evidently intended to make an impression upon the House; but, unfortunately, a little *contrepensé* occurred that sadly marred the effect of all his prophetic warnings. It occurred thus: the Honourable Member was drawing a parallel between our course and that of the rulers of France at the commencement of the French Revolution: "We were about to introduce the Jews into the Legislature by resolution. Well, all the mischief of the French revolutionists was done by resolution. By a resolution they abolished primogeniture; by a resolution they abolished the nobility; by a resolution they abolished titles; and by a resolution they abolished tithes." All this was said in the Honourable Member's most solemn manner: and it is probable, that as he drew this picture of the course to which the House was committing itself, he thought that, from the deep silence of the House, he was producing a profound impression. But it was not so. On the contrary, certain Radical Members, instead of being moved to tears, were rather excited to hope by this peep into the vista of the future which the Honourable Gentleman was giving them. At all events, that was evidently the case with one member—a tall, massive gentleman, with black beard, below the gangway; for when Mr. Drummond came to the words "abolished tithes," which he pronounced with an emphasis that showed that he thought that this was the very climax of abomination, the Honourable

Member alluded to could restrain himself no longer, but suddenly, in a remarkably gruff voice, cried out, "Hear! hear! hear!" The effect of this interruption was the most extraordinary that we have ever seen. A burst of laughter broke out, which seemed to shake the walls. The speaker was renewed, and again renewed, so loud and hearty, that the strain in the lobby were started, and wonderingly inquired what it all meant. Mr. Drummond stood whilst it lasted, dismayed and confounded; and you would imagine a tragedian would stand, who, in some tragical, passionate, awful scene, instead of moving the audience to tears, almost agony, is greeted by a burst of mirth. It was such a step from the sublime to the ridiculous as we never saw before. The Honourable Gentleman attempted to resume, but all in vain. There was nothing now to be done but to bring his speech at once to a close.

CLEARING THE BOOK.

To those who know but little of parliamentary business, the state of the order book on Monday last would preclude all hope of a prorogation for a month to come; for on the paper there were no less than 100 bills. But notwithstanding the formidable array of work to be done, there is no reason to doubt that our labours are drawing rapidly to a close. Many of these bills were mere continuation bills, which, before separated, were passed and scratched off, without a word of remark, at the rate of half-a-dozen in five minutes. Others, though important measures, were only waiting for their third reading, and received their dismissal almost as rapidly as the mere formal measures; while many more were doomed bills, and when the time arrived, were "discharged;" or, in other words, wiped away by a word from the Speaker. So that before we arose at three o'clock in the morning, the formidable list was reduced to half its length, and long before the next fortnight shall have passed the order book will be a *tabula rasa*.

AN IRISH WAKE.

Amongst the slaughtered measures is the Dublin Police Bill, which was withdrawn at two o'clock. When the question is put that "the order be discharged," it is not usual for English and Scotch members to say a word; but Irish members, true to their character, generally say up a debate even at this stage. And so it was with this Police Bill. At every stage they fought with it as only Irishmen can fight, and when it was dead, they "waked" it with a regular Irish howl and scurrilousness. For a full hour they stopped the business of the House. What was said no one will ever know, for not a word was heard and the incessant cries of "oh! oh!" "agreed!" "agreed!" "question!" "question!" and, of course, nothing was reported, unless, indeed, some Irish member, in the midst of the knot of speakers, was taking notes to be reproduced over the Channel for the edification of the Hibernian Bunkum. Let our reader fancy, if he can, the silent despair of the Speaker, as he sinks back in his chair, while all this is going on. He puts the question that "the order be discharged," and up jump six or seven Irishmen; and then, when these are exhausted, and he puts the final question, that "the bill be withdrawn," up jump these six or seven again, or some other six or seven. Surely, some alteration in the rules of the House is required here. When a bill is to be withdrawn, why should there be any talk? At all events, it might be ruled that one "question" shall be sufficient. Job's patience is proverbial all over the world, but the patience of a Speaker of the House of Commons is still more marvellous, as he sits chained to his chair at two o'clock in the morning whilst an Irish scurrilousness is on about a bill to be withdrawn; and knowing, as he does, that there is still another hour's work before him, and that, at twelve o'clock at noon on the same day, he must be again in his chair, when these noisy wranglers will be fast asleep in their bed. Many a time have we groaned out the exclamation, and no doubt Mr. Speaker has heartily sympathised with us, "Oh, that these Irish orators had again their own Parliament on College Green!" It was nearly three when the House broke up; and before Mr. Speaker could get to his bed, the morning sun was streaming into his windows.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

But patience! Land is ahead. Here is the Appropriation Bill—or, as it is more strictly called, the Consolidated Fund Bill—upon the table—that blessed herald of holidays and country air. It was quietly laid there on Monday night, and, according to all precedent, in ten days, or at most a fortnight, it will have passed through all the stages, and received the Royal assent. This bill, gentle readers, whose appearance on the table of the House makes the eyes of every official, every reporter, and every member of the Government sparkle with hope, is the bill which, when passed into a law, will confirm the money-votes of the House. All money for the service of the state, as you are doubtless aware, is debated and voted in a committee of the House; but the money is not available for state purposes until all these votes have been embodied in a law. Now, as, after all, the great object of all government is to get money for the state service, when this is done, nothing further remains but to prorogue the House. "But what is to be done with other bills not ready for the Royal assent? There are surely some in this state," you will say. Doubtless there are; and, as we have already told you, these will be ruthlessly slaughtered. The bell has rung; all who are ready may go; but if any are not ready, they must stop behind for the next train, or go to "the place where the good niggers go," for what we care. From our perch we eyed that bill on Monday night with no small satisfaction. It was a simple-looking thing in itself; but to our eyes it was a "bow of promise." It was to us like that bit of carved wood which Columbus picked up when he was voyaging in search of the western world—a sure and certain herald of "land ahead."

MR. GLOVER.—Mr. E. A. Glover addressed a large assembly in South-west on Monday evening, on parliamentary reform. One of the jury that convicted him took the chair, and expressed his great regret that the evidence which now exonerated Mr. Glover from the charge of returning a false property qualification had not been submitted at the trial. The sympathies of the meeting appeared to go entirely with Mr. Glover.

LORD CLANRICARDE AND THE HANDCOCKS.—The Irish papers record a trial in which John Stratford Handcock, (the person whose testimony, with that of his half-brother, implicated Lord Clanricarde in the Handcock v. Delacour trial), by no means appeared to advantage. It seems that Handcock was supported in London, when destitute, by a woman named Upton, a cock who fed and clothed him. Subsequently, Handcock became rich, and engaged the woman in his service, from which, it was alleged, she was cruelly expelled. She then commenced an action in Dublin, for the board, lodging, and maintenance of the defendant; for money lent, for wages, and to recover damages for assaults committed by Handcock and his servants. He averred the payment of £8 odd in court, in discharge of the wages, and denied the other matters complained of in the summons and plaint. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff upon all the issues except the count in trover, with £350 damages and 6d. costs; £179 being for the assault, and the balance for the demand for wages and for food and money given to the defendant.

HOW TO CLEANSE THE THAMES.—Admiral Sartorius makes the following bold suggestion:—"A large ship canal from between Portsmouth and Southampton to London, would be a paying speculation. Bring this canal well above London, and communicating with the Thames by several floodgates, having a short branch forking off to carry down tall-masted vessels to below bridges. The judicious introduction of this immense mass of sea water into the river would produce the same result as takes place during the winter rains—viz., make the ebb tide more rapid and of longer duration than the flood by two or three hours. Thus, in twelve hours, the ebb will run rapidly eight or nine hours, the flood sluggishly for three or four hours; consequently after a few days there will never be an accumulation of sewerage, the ebb taking it off quicker than it can run into the river. The floodgates will keep this mass of sea water under perfect control. It is quite certain that in the event of a war with France, and with some privateers swarming in the Channel, no man in his senses would risk the passage from Southampton to London round by Dover,—independent of the dangers incidental to navigating that most dangerous and intricate coast, if they had such a safe port as Southampton to run into at once, with the advantage, in addition, of a comparatively short communication to London for vessels of every size. Thus the ship canal would more than pay for itself, and convey an immense volume of water to the Thames, which, acting according to the common laws of nature, would serve to keep the river clear, without demanding any expensive works and upsetting the half of London, and to do that upon which hardly any two engineers can perfectly agree. Such a canal as I propose has often been talked of."

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE INDIA BILL.

The House went into committee on the Government of India Bill. Lord Brougham, on clause 7 being proposed, which defines the constitution of the Council, condemned the whole scheme. The Council would only be a Minister with useless suggestions and minutes on the most trifling questions; and, if they were rejected, the minority would always be able to furnish weapons of attack against the Secretary in the House of Commons. The Minister would gain no advice or knowledge from the Council, he could not obtain from others without the embarrassment of having to consult them.

The Earl of Derby defended the principle of a Council, which, with the limitations imposed by the bill, would be strictly an advising body. The Duke of Somerset moved that the clause appointing the Council be struck out.

The Earl of Albemarle and Lord Wodehouse also spoke against the clause; the principle was advocated by Lord Montagu, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Lord Ashburton, and Lord Belper.

Lord GRANVILLE, though he questioned the advantage of a Council, would advise the House to strike out the clause, and hoped the Duke of Somerset would withdraw his amendment.

The clause was agreed to, as were clauses 8, 9, and 10, after a short discussion.

On clause 11, by which the members of the Council are to hold office for

the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH moved an amendment limiting the term of years, but it was negatived without a division, and the clause

on clause 12 (the discussion of which was interrupted by the fall of part of the cornice of the ceiling), Lord GRANVILLE moved an amendment prohibiting the councillors from carrying on any business, trade, or profession; it was negatived on a division by a majority of 15.

On clause 13 to 21 were agreed to; the Earl of DERBY proposed an amendment on clause 22, which was adopted; it omits the portion of the clause relating to any five members of the Council to call a meeting of the body by a resolution in writing to the Secretary of State.

All the clauses up to 33 were passed, when the Chairman reported progress, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

JEWIS IN PARLIAMENT.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved the second reading of the Jews' Bill sent down from the House of Lords.

Mr. NEWDEGATE moved to defer it for three months. It was with deep regret, he said, that he opposed a measure which had received the sanction of Lord Derby, and that Lord Derby, after the assurances he had given of the firmness of his conviction upon this question, should have changed his mind when there was no occasion for the change. Besides the effect of the bill upon the Christian character of the House, it involved incidental

circumstances of moment, and would be no settlement. It was, in his opinion, the first step in a new course which he viewed with apprehension.

Mr. SPOONER supported this amendment. The House of Lords, though they had passed this bill, had recorded their opinion that Jews were generally unfit to take part in Christian legislation. Moreover, giving power to a majority of that House to permit or refuse permission to a person duly elected to take his seat, was the abandonment of an important constitutional principle. He denounced the measure as a fatal error, as a great deviation of duty, and a betrayal of trust.

Mr. BENTINCK likewise opposed the bill.

Mr. ADAMS said his objection to the bill was not so much to the principle of the admission of Jews as to the form, the insulting form, in which it was presented to that House, accompanied by reasons which were a thorough and complete condemnation of it.

Lord J. RUSSELL observed that the bill was not his; it had been sent from the other House, which desired the concurrence of the Commons. The question, he admitted, was not gracious in its manner; but it relieved the two Houses from a great practical difficulty, and for that reason he recommended the second reading of the bill.

Mr. DRUMMOND, after commenting upon what he regarded as the revolutionary character of certain doctrines as to the power of the House of Commons, argued that the present measure was the necessary sequence of a series of innovations. Have the Jews, he said, they must; this bill was the least mischievous mode of admitting them; and therefore he should vote for the second reading.

Mr. WALPOLE objected to the bill, that for the first time in the legislation of the country, it enabled the two Houses of Parliament by a resolution to pass a law which was a general law, and general laws ought to be maintained. The House of Lords would, in his opinion, have done better if they had frankly acquiesced in the bill sent up by this House, instead of passing a patchwork measure, which could not be a permanent settlement of the question. The bill empowered the House to admit a Jew by a resolution which the next House of Commons might reverse; so that the question might arise again.

Lord PALMERSTON said it was with considerable reluctance that he gave his support to this bill; but he felt so strongly the expediency and justice of admitting Jews to Parliament, that he was content to acquiesce in this first instalment, feeling that a measure so objectionable on constitutional grounds would not remain long upon the Statute-book.

The second reading was carried by 156 to 65.

The House then went into a committee of supply.

MONDAY, JULY 19.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE MASSACRE AT JEDDAH.

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE alluded to the late massacre of Christians at Jeddah. After dwelling on the slowness of Turkish officials in rendering justice, he expressed the hope that the rumour of the occupation of Mecca, or the seizure of some precious objects of veneration treasured within its walls, had no foundation. It would simply increase the hatred between Mussulman and Christian. He wished to know whether her Majesty's Government had received any official advices of the massacre, and whether reparation would be demanded and enforced.

The Earl of MALMEBURY replied that redress had been demanded. There was no intention of occupying Mecca. He trusted to be able in a few days to state what steps had been taken by the Turkish Pacha sent to Jeddah to do justice for the recent outrage.

THE INDIA BILL.

This bill being again brought before committee, Lord ELLENBOROUGH proposed clause 34, regulating appointments to the scientific branches of the Indian army. The proposal to give these appointments by competition was an act of homage to democracy, was totally uncalled for, and would seriously affect the future efficiency of the Artillery and Engineers of the Indian army.

The Earl of DERBY said he was not insensible to the advantages of birth and station, but he could not join with Lord Ellenborough in saying that, because a person happened to be the son of a tailor, a grocer, or a cheese-vendor, provided his mental qualifications were equal to those of his competitors, he was to be excluded from honourable competition for an appointment in the public service. The clause provided that persons should be admitted into the Artillery and Engineers upon an examination, the regulations for which examination should with all convenient speed be prepared and prescribed by the Secretary of State under the authority of the Crown.

The Duke of SOMERSET opposed the clause.

After a discussion, in which Earl Granville, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Cranworth, Lord Montagu, Lord Brougham, and Lord Broughton took part, the Committee divided. The numbers were:—Contents, 41, non-contents, 34; majority 7.

The clause was then agreed to.

On clause 35 to 51 were also agreed to.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH proposed, in clause 52, the insertion of words limiting it beyond doubt or question that the expenditure of India should be charged on the revenue of India alone.

The consideration of the clause was postponed for the amendment to be

On the Earl of DERBY proposed, in clause 53, the insertion of words with a view to the periodical production before Parliament of statistical information respecting the moral and material progress of India.

The clause, as amended, was agreed to, as were the remaining clauses of the bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE PURIFICATION OF THE THAMES.

On the order for the second reading of the Metropolitan Local Management Act Amendment Bill.

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY objected to entrusting such extensive powers to a body which was not a representative body, and asked whether the rate was to fall upon the occupier or owner, or both.

Mr. ARKROYD objected to the Government guarantee, contending that the rate of £3,000,000 would by no means cover the amount required for the

proposed plan, and that a system of deodorisation, which had been proved to be successful, might be carried out at less than the annual interest upon the sum to be guaranteed.

Mr. LOWE observed that, before the Metropolitan Board of Works were permitted to raise £3,000,000, to be spent at their will, it was reasonable to ask whether they were worthy to be trusted with such powers. He compared the plan of the Board with that of the Government referees, and, after a close examination of details and figures, gave the preference to the latter, as the most effectual, and ultimately the least costly.

Mr. HEADLAM agreed that the House should not hand over this money to an irresponsible board without some security that it would be properly administered. The ratepayers would be better satisfied if the works were carried on upon the responsibility and under the authority of the Government; and he thought the right thing would have been for them to undertake the work at first and altogether.

Lord J. MANNERS observed, that the House had justified the saying that it had hot and cold fits. A fortnight ago, the Government had been called upon to settle this question within twenty-four hours; and now, after they had framed a scheme, which they deliberately recommended the House to adopt, they were told it would be better to postpone action. They had not proceeded with an undue precipitation; he knew no question which had been more thoroughly thrashed out. If the opinion of the House was that there should be no decision come to this year, the responsibility of inaction must be upon the House; on the part of the Government he repudiated it. The only way in which the action of the Government could be brought to bear was contained in the four corners of the bill. He insisted that the Government should not undertake such a work; that its expense should be borne by the locality; and that the municipality already established as a representative of this great metropolis, should be intrusted with the work. In reply to Sir H. Willoughby, he said the rate would be a sewer's rate, and what was commonly called a landlady's rate.

Mr. GLADSTONE said he thought Lord J. Manners was mistaken in supposing that the speeches to which he had referred were accusations against the Government; they were confessions of the difficulty, in which he (Mr. Gladstone) participated, in which those were placed who were called upon to assent to the principle of a bill which contained provisions so important. The body entrusted with the expenditure of so large an amount of money should be popularly constituted; but though the Board was in theory a representative body, yet this was not sufficiently clear, and, when he considered who was to be ultimately responsible for the payment of the money, and for any further expenditure beyond the £3,000,000, this was a vital point.

Mr. ALDERMAN CURRIE supported the bill, repeating his suggestion as to the danger of diminishing the volume of the river.

Mr. CONINGHAM, on the contrary, viewed with considerable alarm the proposition that the metropolis should be handed over to the Metropolitan Board of Works and the adoption of a scheme that, in his opinion, would fail in its objects.

Sir B. HALL said, he was not one of those who desired to throw over this question; on the contrary, he should vote for the second reading of the bill; but he called the attention of Lord J. Manners to the second clause, to which he objected, which enabled the Metropolitan Board of Works to establish outfalls, with deodorising works, in any part of the metropolitan area.

Mr. JOSEPH LOCKE said he had met with many persons who did not consider the scheme of the Metropolitan Board of Works the best that could be adopted. He thought it would be better for the Government simply to guarantee the money, without involving itself in any scheme whatever.

Mr. HENLEY remarked that this was exactly what the bill did; it gave no indication of any particular scheme; it only required that the nuisance should be got rid of.

Mr. STEPHENSON said, after much consideration of the subject, he had come to the conclusion that nothing would effectually answer the purpose but an intercepting system, which could be accommodated to any extension of London. He could not understand the objection to intrusting the Metropolitan Board of Works with the undertaking; they were in possession of all the information necessary for carrying it out. He supported the bill.

Sir J. SHELLEY approved the intercepting system, and should vote for the second reading of the bill.

Sir G. LEWIS assented to the principle of giving the proposed powers to the Metropolitan Board of Works; but, with reference to the clause empowering the Government to appoint a superintending inspector, he objected to the Government incurring any responsibility for loss in case the plan turned out unsuccessful, on the ground that their inspector was cognisant of what was going on. The Government, he said, should assume no more responsibility than was incidental to the guarantee.

Mr. JOHN LOCKE opposed the bill, which he pronounced an incomprehensible measure.

Lord PALMERSTON hoped the House would agree to the second reading of the bill, and not prolong the evils of disease and suffering caused by imperfect drainage. These evils, he observed, could be cured only by intercepting sewers; but he believed it was unfortunate that the Government persisted in limiting the outfall of the tunnels to a point so near the metropolis as Barking Creek.

After some further discussion, the bill was read a second time.

THE JEW BILL.

On the order for going into committee upon the Jew Bill.

Mr. KNIGHTLEY, an opponent of the bill, said, he thought that if the Lords intended to admit Jews to Parliament, it would have been wiser to agree to the bill sent up to them by the Commons than to pass this queer measure of compromise, accompanied by reasons why its provisions ought not to be acted upon by the House.

Mr. GILPIN characterised the bill as a miserable subterfuge, and only a little better than nothing at all.

Mr. BENTINCK declared that by the bill a direct and aggravated insult was offered to the House of Commons and to the Jews themselves. He contended that the House was bound to include Turks, heretics, and infidels in the bill.

Mr. SPOONER thought the bill a great disgrace to the other branch of the Legislature, and that it was an insult to this House to ask it to agree to a measure every word of which was reprobated except the object it was to carry out.

Lord J. RUSSELL, at the request of Mr. Spooner, showed that there was nothing unconstitutional in the provisions of the bill.

Upon a division, the ayes, for the committee, were 144, and the noes 40. The House then went into committee upon the bill, when

Mr. SPOONER moved to add a proviso to the first clause, "That such resolution be not acted on till the consent of the Crown be signified to both Houses of Parliament."

The motion was negatived, and this and the other clauses were agreed to without amendment.

SIGNS OF THE END.

The House next went into committee upon the Government of New Caledonia Bill, and afterwards upon the Civil Bills, &c. (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill, the clauses of which were discussed at much length and ultimately agreed to.

Other bills were forwarded a stage, and, the remaining orders (the aggregate number being forty) having been disposed of, the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, JULY 20.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Titles to Land in Scotland Bill, the Sale and Transfer of Land (Ireland) Bill, and the Medical Practitioners' Bill, passed through committee.

The Government of India Bill was reported as amended, and ordered to be read a third time next day.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

AN AMNESTY FOR INDIA.

Mr. BUXTON asked whether, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, it would not be well to offer a complete amnesty to all the rebellious in India who would lay down their arms, unless they could be proved to have been present at the murder of Europeans.

Lord STANLEY replied that the sentiments of the Government were sufficiently manifested by the instructions already transmitted to Lord Canning; and it was felt that the Governor-General required no additional stimulus to adopt a merciful policy.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

Mr. ROEBUCK, after explaining the legal, political, and commercial position of the Hudson's Bay Company, moved a series of resolutions to the following effect:—That the privileges of the Hudson's Bay Company, about to expire, ought not to be renewed; that the legal validity of the exclusive rights claimed by the Hudson's Bay Company, under their charter, ought at once to be determined by process of law; and that so much of the territory hitherto held by the Hudson's Bay Company as may be needed for the purpose of colonisation, ought, without delay, to be resumed by the Government of this country.

Mr. ROEBUCK, in justifying his resolutions, remarked that one part of the Anglo-Saxon race was rapidly extending over the Western Continent, threatening not only to monopolise all power in America, but even to overshadow the old nations of Europe. As a counterbalance to this growing power, he saw nothing but the development of wealth and population in British North America.

The motion was seconded by Lord BURY.

Mr. GLADSTONE remarked that the public had hitherto been kept much in the dark on this subject, and the public rights should now be weighed

against the Company's rights. It was impossible to concede that a large area of cultivatable surface should be permanently closed to colonisation; and the only conclusion was that they ought to throw open the territory to settlers from Europe, while liberally compensating the Company for any pecuniary damage they might sustain.

Mr. LABOUCHERE agreed that it was desirable that the rights of the Company should be ascertained; that the charter should be done away with, and a license substituted; but he protested against vast tracts of country being thrown open indiscriminately to all comers without provisions to preserve order there. Upon the whole, he believed with Mr. Gladstone, that it would be better to leave the matter to the Government.

Sir E. B. LYTON observed that the Hudson's Bay territory was divisible into two distinct portions, one fit for cultivation, the other barren. Over the former district the license of the Company would certainly not be renewed. Moreover, the whole question of the Company's charter would be submitted to the consideration of the law advisers of the Crown, and her Majesty's Ministers would then prepare a comprehensive scheme for colonisation.

Lord J. RUSSELL remarked that the question involved various matters of fact, and until information had been obtained on these it would be premature to legislate on the subject. No time should be lost in determining the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company, and re-organising the political condition of the vast districts under consideration.

Mr. A. MILLS enforced the duty of protecting, in any scheme of colonisation, the rights of the aboriginal Indians in the territory.

Mr. LOWE apprehended that every improvement which might be effected in the Hudson's Bay district would ultimately prove profitable only to the United States, through which, in peace or war, lay the sole practicable route to the region in question.

The debate was continued by some remarks from Mr. Christy, Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Kinnaird, Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald, and other members.

Mr. ROEBUCK replied, withdrawing the resolutions, being quite satisfied with the result of the discussion which his motion had elicited.

CONTRABAND OF WAR.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved an address to the Crown, praying her Majesty to appoint a royal commission to inquire into the complaints made by certain British subjects of the destruction of their property by her Majesty's forces at Uleaborg, in the Gulf of Bothnia, during the recent war with Russia.

The property in question consisted of timber, only calculated (it was alleged) for building purposes, and, therefore, not contraband of war.

Sir J. FAKINGTON said that no claim for compensation could be established against the English Government, and that was the opinion of the law officers of the Crown, to whom the question had been submitted. The property advertised to distinctly belonged to the category of articles contraband of war, which by the law of nations were legitimately destroyed when found on an enemy's territory.

Mr. M. GIBSON contended that whatever might be the legal interpretation of the case, the merchants in question had a moral and equitable claim for compensation from the Government.

Sir C. Napier insisted that Admiral Plunridge had only done his duty on the occasion. Twelve gun-boats had been built at Uleaborg.

The motion was negatived, on a division, by 105 to 65.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords sat for a short time on Wednesday afternoon, for the better despatch of business. Several bills (none of public interest) were advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE JEW BILL.

The adjourned debate on the third reading of this bill was resumed by Mr. WARREN, who said the bill had been presented to the House under false colours. Not a member of the House cordially approved of the bill, and he regretted her Majesty's Government had found it necessary to give way to pressure on this subject. He moved the third reading of the bill that day six months.

Mr. ROEBUCK accepted the measure; but his opinion concerning the wisdom of the House of Lords had not received any increase by it. He congratulated the country on the folly of the Lords, and should vote for the third reading of their bill.

After some further discussion, the third reading was carried by 129 to 55. The bill therefore passed.

THE LORDS' OBJECTIONS TO THE OATHS BILL.

On the motion for the consideration of the Lords' reasons for insisting on their amendments to the Oaths Bill.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL proposed—1. "That this House does not consider it necessary to examine the reasons offered by the Lords for insisting upon the exclusion of Jews from Parliament, as by a bill of the present session, intitled 'An Act to provide for the relief of her Majesty's subjects professing the Jewish religion,' their Lordships have provided means for the admission of persons professing the Jewish religion to seats in the Legislature. 2. That this House doth not insist upon their disagreement with the Lords in their amendments to the said bill."

After some debate, the motion was carried.

THURSDAY, JULY 22.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the Lords, several bills were advanced a stage, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE REVENUE.

In the Commons, at the early sitting.

On the order of the day for the House going into committee on the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill.

Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS said, it was clear that the estimate made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his budget was erroneous, for he had calculated upon a surplus of £300,000; whereas there would be a deficiency of £835,000 according to the votes taken for the public service.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER admitted that from various causes the expenditure had exceeded his estimate; but, on the other hand, his estimate of the revenue had also been exceeded. Even in the first quarter's revenue, the most unfavourable of the year, for it had followed a terrible commercial crisis, there had been a surplus of income over expenditure of £223,964. On the first eighteen days of the second quarter there was also a surplus of £364,000 over the revenue of the corresponding period of last year. This was an encouraging prospect for the future.

After discussion, the bill passed through committee.

LONDON LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.

On the motion that the House go into committee on the Metropolitan Local Management Act Amendment Bill.

Mr. BUTLER objected to the bill, and moved that the committee be put off for three months.

The amendment was negatived by 133 to 11, and the House then went into committee, but no progress was made up to the time of adjournment.

THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE HOUSE.

At the evening sitting.

Lord JOHN MANNERS, in answer to Mr. Hume, said that it was true that some portions of the foundation stone of the House had shown symptoms of decay on the surface from the action of the London atmosphere, but not by any means to such an extent as to affect the stability of the structure.

Mr. WALPOLE, in answer to Mr. Laurie, stated that there was already a law in existence to prevent the manufacture of fireworks in populous places.

LONDON LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.

The House then resumed the consideration of the Metropolitan Local Management Act Amendment Bill in committee.

All the clauses, with various amendments, were agreed to, and the House resumed.

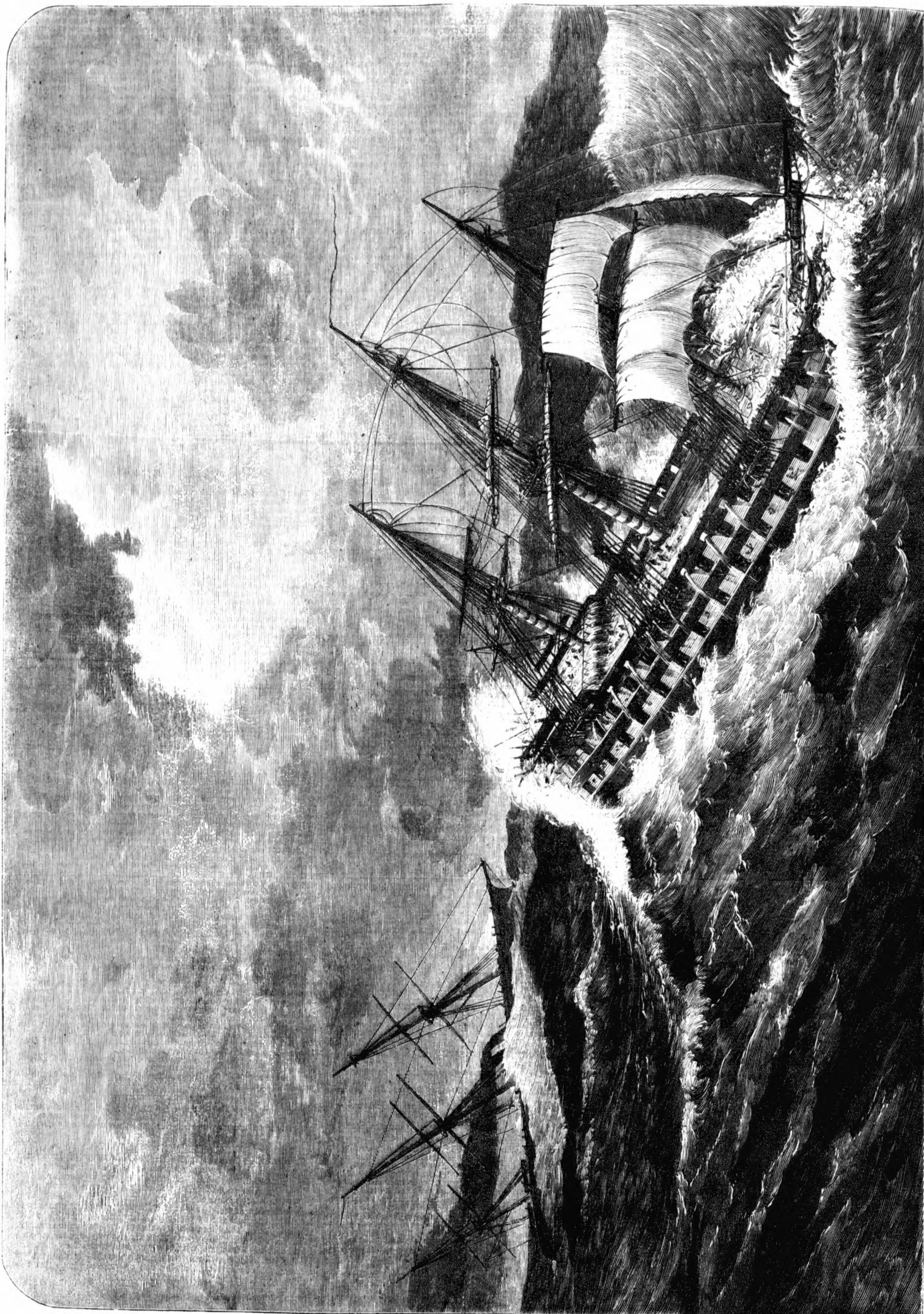
The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter before two.

THE BROTHER OF MR. MURRAY, her Majesty's Minister at the Persian Court, contradicts a report that Mr. Alison had been appointed to that mission. Mr. Murray has not resigned his post, nor has he been superseded.

THE ATLANTIC SQUADRON.

The squadron commissioned with the delicate task of laying the great Atlantic cable, has again started on its almost hopeless errand. Having recoiled, the ships left Queenstown on Sunday morning.

The *Agamemnon* had to be well caulked before she could again be sent to sea; though she does not seem to have sustained such serious damage as might have been anticipated, considering the severe buffeting she received by the long Atlantic waves during the late attempt. Besides the work necessary to make the *Agamemnon* staunch, measures were taken to prevent the coils of cable or stock of coals from breaking loose again, which was the main cause of apprehension in the last disastrous trip. Other improvements in the general arrangement of affairs were made; and we can only hope that this time the experiment will be successful.



THE AGAMEMNON AND THE NIAGARA IN A STORM.

AVOID SLAYING THE PYTHON.—FROM THE PICTURE BY J. W. M. TURNER, R.A. IN THE COLLECTION AT MUSEUM OF ARTS.



APOLLO KILLING THE PYTHON.

THE Python, that terrible dragon who lived at Crissa, near Delphi, probably committed more havoc among the cattle and inhabitants of the locality in a single year than all the lions of Algeria together have ever done among the Arabs. The Algerian lions run off now and then with a sheep or a calf, occasionally with a cow or a horse, and sometimes even with a man. But these wild beasts are for the most part afraid of the light of day, and seldom commit their depredations after dawn or before sunset. The Python, however, had no such scruples. He would sally forth at noon to depopulate a small town. He would drive in a village, sap a hamlet, and eat up any stray inhabitants that he might happen to meet with, by way of lunch. But he was destined to find his Jules Gérard at last, and though not fearing the sun, it was from Phœbus Apollo, the solar god, that he received his death-wound. In honour of this victory of the sun over the serpent, of all-powerful light over highly-powerful darkness, the Pythian games were established; and the glorious combat of Apollo and the dragon has become one of the favourite subjects of great painters and great poets.

Here are the lines from the hymn of Callimachus, which describe the agony of the serpent:—

"Envenomed by thy darts, the monster called,
Portentous, horrible, and vast, his snake-like form—
Rent the huge portal of the rocky den,
And, in the throes of death he tore
His many wounds in one, while earth
Absorbing, blackened with his gore."

Mr. Ruskin, it will be remembered, states that the change which led to the perfect development of Turner's power took place in 1820, and that during his first period he laboured as a student, imitating successively the works of the various masters who excelled in the qualities he desired to attain himself. Yet, of the "Apollo killing the Python" (which in the official catalogue is dated 1811, but to which Mr. Ruskin affixes no date at all), he says, that it is "one of the very noblest of all Turner's works, and, therefore, one of the noblest pictures in the world." The picture, however, is intended to illustrate more particularly the lines we have quoted on the death of the serpent, rather than the combat itself. "The reader ought to be warned," says Mr. Ruskin, "that the nobleness is in the serpent and the landscape; not in the human figure, which might justly offend him, at the first glance, and cause him to neglect the great work in the rest of the design. He may, perhaps, also be glad to be told where the dragon's head is, down behind the rock in the dark angle, the jaws wide open, and the teeth or tusks bared (they are rightly like saurian's teeth, not like serpent's fangs). One of the most wonderful things in the picture is the way in which the structure of the writhed coil of the dragon's tail distinctly expresses mortal agony, not mere serpentine convulsion. Note also how in the last lash of it he has struck the two stones high into the air, weighing about a hundred to a hundred and fifty tons each. Turner was the first painter who ever dared to draw flying stones; all previous pictorial conception, at its boldest, had never gone beyond falling ones." Mr. Ruskin tells us elsewhere that "no serpent or dragon was ever conceived before, either so vast, or so probable, as these of the Jason and Heracles, or the Python." And, in another place, "There is something very wonderful," says the same critic, "in the anticipation by Turner of the grandest reaches of recent inquiry into the form of the dragons of the old earth. I do not know at what period the first hints were given of the existence of these remains; but certainly no definite statements of their probable forms were given either by Buckland, Owen, or Conybeare before 1815; yet this saurian of Turner's is very nearly an exact counterpart of the model of the Iguanodon, now the guardian of the Hesperian gardens of the Crystal Palace, wings only excepted; which are here almost accurately those of a pterodactyle. The instinctive grasp which the healthy imagination takes of possible truth, even in its wildest flights, was never more marvellously demonstrated."

Those who wish to see how the same subject can be treated quite differently by two painters of almost equal genius, may compare this "Apollo and the Python" of Turner with the "Apollo slaying the Python," by Eugène Delacroix, in the Apollo Gallery of the Louvre. In M. Delacroix's picture, which decorates the ceiling of the gallery, and which is certainly the greatest work (not only in colour, in which M. Delacroix always excels, but also in design), that artist has produced, the principal figure is the Apollo. The god is represented in the act of shooting, and the figure and attitude are full of energy, and indeed express an amount of vigour which is quite supernatural. In Turner, however, there is no such contest between the glorious Phœbus and the reptile monster. The Python is expiring in impotent rage, while Apollo remains composed, dignified, and calm, in the consciousness of superior strength.

During the month of August, a highly finished Engraving, on a large scale, of the celebrated Picture, by Sir Edwin Landseer, R.A., in the collection of the Earl of Ellesmere, entitled

THE RETURN FROM HAWKING.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1858.

THE PAPER DUTY.

PAPER seems to have some great attraction for our governors and their excisemen. They cannot keep their fingers off it; they have taxed it since 1712, and still insist on doing so, after sparing glass, leather, bricks, and soap. By a strange contradiction, the British Executive seems to imitate Jack Cade, and address a respectable class of manufacturers as Shakespeare makes Jack address Lord Say:—"Contrary to the king, his crown and dignity, thou has built a paper-mill." For to build a paper-mill is to bring ruthless officials in upon you, to share the fruits of your labours and punish you for your industry—perhaps (if you are a small manufacturer) to ruin you altogether.

ther. In short, this particular excise has become so hateful in its action and in its results, that the gorge of decent folk rises at it, and an agitation is now to be carried on which shall have no pause except at its abolition.

There is no doubt that all taxation is disagreeable, and that a Chancellor of the Exchequer, like the drummer in the old story, cannot lay it on so as to please altogether, anyhow. But there are kinds and degrees of taxation—different sorts of it, as there are different sorts of deaths. We all know that death is inevitable, but it is more tolerable to die in your bed than to be crushed by a wagon, or drowned off Blackfriars in the dog-days. And so with the inevitable taxes of Britain: some are very much worse than others, more unfair, more annoying, more retarding. Being taxed is like being bled—you submit decently to the lancet applied to your arm; but what would you say if anybody proposed to operate by a blow on your nose, at the expense of your face and your shirt? Now, these may be rude illustrations, but they are perfectly illustrative; for the Paper Duty is cruel, oppressive, and unwise, as we shall briefly proceed to show.

In the first place, it has all the peculiar bad features of an excise, as distinct from other modes of taxation, and therefore its object claims the same exemption which has been allowed for other necessary substances. But, in addition to this, it is levied on an article which has more claims than most articles to the indulgence of legislation. Paper, like the precious metals which it is used to represent, has a twofold use in the world. As you can employ gold either for making spoons or for a basis of currency, so you can use paper either to wrap coffee or to diffuse thought. A tax which checks its sale does not, therefore, only interfere with popular comfort but with popular education. So that it is really a tax which combines the evils of the old excise on soap and the old newspaper-stamp duty, at one and the same time.

Naturally the educational side of the affair is the most important; and it is certainly an anomaly that in this country a great part of one million of revenue should be raised out of the means by which people are taught to read, write, and think. It is a tax on grammar, on geography, on spelling, on the alphabet. It prevents little boys from getting up the names of English towns correctly. And yet we brag of the progress of education!

If there is anything certain about the education question, it is that we have no chance at present of an adequate national measure. It is for this reason that all indirect means of education, all facilities for it, should be multiplied. While we are waiting for Government to do the thing finally, we lose a chance of seeing it partially helping itself. But the only way the cause can help itself is through the aid of cheap books and cheap journals. These, however, cannot be cheap while the material of their creation is compulsorily made dear. Everybody has heard of the case of the "Penny Cyclopædia," the battle of which with the paper duty has been narrated by Mr. Charles Knight. That work paid, between 1833 and 1846, the sum of £15,312 in taxation; but even this sum swelled up, allowing for collateral causes of expense through taxation, to £26,500 by the year 1850. The reader of Mr. Knight's "Struggles of a Book" will farther learn how such taxation oppresses good cheap literature more heavily than literature which is corrupt and demoralising. It over-weights the decent journal in its race with the blackguard one, by making those qualities which the decent journal must have, and its rival does not care for, impossible to attain. Let the reader fancy a heavy tax on breeches. The respectable poor man must, in such case, stay at home for want of them; the scoundrel takes the road *in puris* (or rather *in impuris*) *naturalibus* at once. Just such is the operation of the Paper Duty on cheap papers; good ones cannot afford to do all the good they would like, bad ones can afford their mischievous objects, and do. Yet, if bad literature is to be put down, it is cheap good literature that must do it; the poor will have some, and the days of coercion are over.

On moral grounds, the tax is indefensible and undefended. Lord Derby as good as told the deputation on the subject, that it had not his abstract approval. But then it produces a million, and how is this to be made up? Precedents are encouraging on this point. No offensive duty of the kind has yet been found to do as much harm to the revenue by its abolition as was predicted. Compensating circumstances have appeared. The existence of the duty at present checks the manufacture of paper, keeps small capitalists out of the trade, and makes it a monopoly; prevents its being exported also; the removal of which evils, by benefiting the trade of the country, would enable it the better to meet whatever taxation was devised to supply the deficit. But, after all, it is no ground for stopping a complaint that some good is got out of the existence of an admitted evil—which doctrine would stop all improvement, and make offices like that of the Chancellorship of the Exchequer useless altogether. Unless it be possible to make taxation tolerable and reasonable, why have Chancellors of the Exchequer at all?

But the present Cabinet, which contains two men of great literary reputation, is a very fit Cabinet to dispose of a tax which is an injustice to literature; and, in this hope, we shall return to the subject as opportunity offers.

SNOBBISM IN POLITICS.

SOME time since, we had occasion to point out that the competitive system was beginning to be felt as an interference with jobbery, and that it was being resented accordingly. We have all along supported that system, not because we fancied it would do everything, but because we saw that it was necessary in the absence of something better, and to prevent something worse. It is a piece of machinery intended to meet the difficulties of the age, at a time when we have no men to seek merit for its own sake and reward it, and when money-worship and sham aristocracy together tend to make nepotism rampant over every consideration of wisdom and honour. As such, it is heartily to be welcomed; and Lord Stanley did well when he determined to retain it in important branches of the Indian military service.

The person who has come forward this week to repudiate it and attack it, on the grounds on which it is really hated in secret, is Lord Ellenborough. He makes no disguise of his point of view, but states it quite openly and offensively. He "indirectly exposes" his bigotry. He frankly tells the British public that his dislike to the new method is that it enables the sons of tradesmen to rise by their abilities. Nothing can be more nakedly put. If you have such a plan the sons of grocers and cheese-mongers, says he, will get educated, and rise in the world. The exquisite part of the statement is, that he admits these young fellows will win the competitive prizes, that they will have the merit which the State proposes to reward, and then he wants to

see them stopped. Now, it is in *this* that the snobbism of the view lies; and we notice it only because it illustrates the blundering pseudo-aristocratic way of looking at things which belongs to our present social system. A man who held feudal opinions would have said that the gentry of the country could hold their own in any competition, and would have entered the lists cheerfully against the son of the grocer. It is only the snob (to borrow Thackeray's word) that would bring power to bear against him after he had proved his merit. Scott or Colingwood would have died rather than do anything so shabby, rather than intimate—the one as author, the other as commander—that tradesmen's sons could beat their class, and ought to be prevented from doing so by force. This is your modern aristocratic point of view, openly broached by a peer whose family has risen within a century from among tradespeople, by precisely the talent to which competition gives a fair chance. Anything more stupid, or mean, or inconsistent, we never heard than the utterance of such a speech by Law, Lord Ellenborough; and it was even comic that the good wholesome sense of the subject had to be defended by Stanley, Lord Derby, whose peerage is four centuries old, and his gentility about seven. Lord Derby observed, that a man's origin was not to be considered when the question was of his merit and character, and the working and middle classes of the country will not fail to "make a note of" the observation.

The truth is, that there is not a grain of sense in the particular bit of aristocracy sported by the new peer. A grocer would plainly be an unfit man for a commission from his habits of life, and a son who had served all his youth behind the counter would too. But then the father does not want a commission, and how on earth would a son who had to serve in the shop win one? He could only win one by spending his youth in military subjects of study; and if he had done so, what on earth is to prevent him from being a good soldier by and by? Why should he not be a soldier, as well as a chancellor or a bishop, if the raw material of his manhood is worked up the right way? It is plain that castes must be eternal—tailor succeed tailor, tinker tinker, for ever—if the ambitious able sons of such folk are not allowed to develop according to their instinct, and on making proof of their abilities. Where on earth would Ellenborough have been, if rising by one's brains had been impossible in England?

But, in reality, this foolish attempt to keep down merit is quite modern in this country. Those who have antiquarian and historical knowledge are well aware how the sons of the humblest people became popes, bishops, chancellors, knights, in the very depths of the middle ages, precisely because the old aristocracy could themselves value worth, and could themselves compete with it. And on what are those who would keep it down going to build? Blood? Theless Lord Ellenborough and his friends in the peerage of the same way of thinking say about that side of it the better. Of something not much under four hundred peers in the English peerage, only twenty had their coronets when Queen Elizabeth died, and not above forty families in it are of really ancient and distinguished descent. Having worn tail-coats and gone to the opera for a generation or two cannot make so mighty a difference in a family as to entitle their youngster, even when illiterate, to get a commission in preference to another lad whose father, indeed, sold sugar, but who has proved himself, when young, to have spent years in soldier-like studies, and who, if he succeeds, immediately goes into a regiment, and there undergoes the attrition which forms character quicker than anything. Lord Ellenborough quite mistakes the English character. All our public schools, both our universities, go on the principle of receiving everybody without reference to their birth. It is the little snobbish "academies" of the last few years that only take "gentlemen's sons," meaning the sons of anybody not in trade, with which system ancestry or feudality has as little to do as common sense. This is the system which Lord Ellenborough wants to have in the army, and which Lord Derby repudiates there and elsewhere.

We have as great a respect for the country's traditions as most people, and are not in the habit of talking that cheap harmless rebellion which is now so fashionable because it is so safe. But we do detest, beyond everything, the common "genteel" cant of the military clubs and Tyburnian drawing-rooms, the flimsy view of aristocracy. We heartily support the Napoleonic doctrine of the "open career"—the reward to the man who proves his superiority in any path of life. It is the true plan of maintaining our constitution and our superiority in Europe; the competitive system is one way of making it practical; and we are glad that the present Government means to maintain it in spite of such melancholy instances of opposition as that which we have denounced.

AMICABLE ARRANGEMENT.

AN amicable arrangement is reported to have been agreed upon with respect to Lady Bulwer Lytton. Dr. Forbes Winslow announces that her Ladyship's state of mind is such as to justify her liberation from restraint. Notwithstanding "a previously expressed decided opinion," which Dr. Conolly thinks he need not repeat, this last-named gentleman has much satisfaction in the arrangements made for Lady Lytton's leaving the "private residence" to which she had been conveyed. Mr. Robert B. Lytton, as son of her Ladyship, with, as he tells us, the best right to speak in her behalf, declares that the statements which have appeared in some of the public journals are exaggerated and distorted. Especially, for instance, Lady Lytton was never taken to a lunatic asylum at all; but to the private house of a gentleman, with whose family she was placed. It may strike the reader that this explanation might have been a little less reserved; it might have proceeded to state whether this "placing" was or not by Lady Lytton's own free will; and if so, how it came to pass that medical certificates were required to authorise her visit or her removal. Also whether her Ladyship, having been a few days since certified by two apothecaries to be insane, is now considered as sufficiently in her right mind to be a party to this exceedingly amicable arrangement; and if so, whether the visit to a private residence wrought her cure, and how. However, if all the parties active and passive are satisfied at last, no one else need wish to interfere.

But with the highest possible respect for all concerned in this affair, it seems to us that they are precisely the people who, of all others, have not the best right to speak on this subject; for they have had the benefit, and consequently received the bias, of an amicable arrangement, from all advantage in which the public has hitherto been excluded. Yet the public is the party most interested in the matter, as consisting of many thousands of individuals, of whom no lady or baronet, however otherwise important, can be more than one. And the public has had brought under its notice, broadly and openly, that it is practicable to procure the forced visit to a "private residence" (without recourse to legal proceedings, and without fear of legal punishment) of an English inhabitant, A.D. 1858. Moreover, that the power of ordering and continuing such visit, under restraint, is vested in persons who cannot be received as satisfactory authorities; that the only hope of liberation of "visitors" or captives, made under this system, is from a notoriety which may be accidental, or from an amicable arrangement.



SAILORS AT REST.

ENGLISHMEN are scarcely able to understand how France can produce sailors; and any of us would as soon look for jockeys among the Dutch, or "navies" among the Italians. Nevertheless, France has a coast and seaports, and ships and sailors; and, moreover, has several admirable marine painters, among whom we may mention M. Gudin and M. Poitevin. M. Gudin, however, loves, above all, to paint the sea, sometimes, by a commendable concession to public opinion, he represents ships in his sea; but it is evidently the water that has the real charm for him, and he certainly paints with much truth and feeling. There is another subject, by-the-bye, which M. Gudin also represents with much feeling, but with no sort of truth at all. We allude to those combats between English and French vessels, in which the French are invariably exhibited as sinking or capturing the enemy. Alas! how much easier it is to paint a victory than to gain one!

M. Poitevin is not exclusively a seainter as M. Gudin. M. Poitevin never paints seas without ships, and never paints ships without sailors. By-the-bye, was it not M. Poitevin who painted the deck of the sinking *Vengeur*, with the three heroes, who alone remain out of its heroic crew, clinging round the fast-disappearing mast, and shouting "Vive la République"? The picture is finely conceived and rigorously executed, the only pity being that the story is untrue, and that the *Vengeur* allowed herself (after a certain amount of courageous resistance, no doubt) to be captured, and taken away into harbour, like any other French vessel that has entered into contest with an English one.

M. Poitevin has also painted some good Arctic pieces, of which the boatful of desperate, half-starved mariners attacked by wolves (in the Luxembourg gallery), is the best known. In England, we believe, he never exhibited at all until the present year.



SAILORS AT REST.—(FROM A PICTURE BY LE POITEVIN, IN THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.)

However that may be, M. Poitevin's "Sailors at Rest," in the French Exhibition of Paintings (now open in Pall Mall), will make all admirers of truthful and intelligent marine painting anxious to meet with that artist's productions again. And in describing M. Poitevin's productions as truthful and intelligent, we are not saying enough, for they are also essentially dramatic. Every work of his that we have seen has more or less some story to tell. In the calm, peaceful picture, of which we this day publish an engraving, even the little incident of the sailor holding up a net as a signal to a boat in the distance, lends an air of real life to the scene, and by some such means a reality is given to everything M. Poitevin paints; and in most cases a reality of far greater significance than is shown in the detail to which we have just alluded.

STATUE OF IMOGEN.

BY W. H. FOLEY.

SCHLEGEL speaks of Cymbeline as "one of Shakspeare's most wonderful compositions," in which he "has contrived to blend together into one harmonious whole the social manners of the latest times with heroic deeds, and even with appearances of the gods." That, however, which above all gives beauty to the piece, and which belongs to no country or period, is the character of Imogen, in which not a feature of female excellence is forgotten. Her chaste tenderness, her softness and her virgin pride, her boundless resignation, and her magnanimity towards her mistaken husband, by whom she is unjustly persecuted; her adventures in disguise, her apparent death, and her recovery, form altogether a picture equally tender and affecting. When Imogen comes in disguise to the wild, uncorrupted, heroic brothers Guiderius and Arviragus, who form an impassioned friendship for the boy (never suspecting her to be a girl, far less their own sister) whom, on their return from hunting,



STATUE OF IMOGEN.—(BY W. H. FOLEY, R.A.)

CHELTENHAM

they find her dead and carry her to her tomb, singing her elegy covering her grave with flowers. "Those scenes," it has been remarked, "might give a new life for poetry to the most deadened imagination." "Cymbeline" cannot, perhaps, be placed on an equality with Shakespeare's greatest plays, but it is impossible not to compare it with "Othello," which is founded on the same subject, and on a similar, though not so tragic, a story. In "Cymbeline" we have nothing that approaches the character of Othello; and Iachimo is a far more direct, and therefore more ordinary, scoundrel than Iago. Iachimo is a liar, instead of only suggesting them, and he is the first person, and in the indicative mood. He is quite a different character, but is much inferior, in an intellectual point of view, to Othello. Desdemona, who is herself a less beautiful and poetical creation than Iago.

In "Cymbeline" Imogen appears to us twice in a dream, once when she is sleeping, and again when she is awake. First we see her in her bedchamber, where she is surrounded by the gods to protect her "from fabrics and the tempters of the night." Iachimo emerges from the trunk, goes into raptures about her transparent eyelids, "white and azure, laced with blue of heaven's own tint," and robs her of her bracelet, that it may "witness outwardly, as strongly as the conscience does within, to the maddening of her lord."

"O sleep, thou ape of death,
And to her sense but a brief truce,
Thus in a chapel lying!"

he exclaims. These are probably the particular lines in the play which have suggested to Mr. Foley his charming figure. She is lying as a monument in a chapel, and is altogether an admirable realisation of the poet's description. Of course, in a statue, we must not look for a scene. The areas, the window, the adornment of the bed, the flame of the taper, that "looks towards her"—these necessarily are wanting; but we certainly have the "fresh life, whiter than the sheets," the delicate eyelids, through which the infamous Iachimo longs to peep, that he may see the "enclosed light now camped beneath those windows;" we notice that the arm lifted above the head has lost the bracelet which is to be used as the proof of the chaste Imogen's dishonour; we perceive the serpent, with head erect, that the sculptor has placed beneath the pillow of the sleeping girl, and which symbolises the peridy by which, for a time, she is to be ruined and betrayed. Mr. Foley's Imogen is not merely to be admired as a piece of sculpture, but as being really the Imogen of "Cymbeline." His statue tells us the story of the whole piece. Looking at Imogen and at the serpent, we see at once that "though this a heavenly angel, hell is here;" and the death-like sleep and the bare right arm inform us of the fact.

A NEW NATIONAL GALLERY.—The "Observer" says:—"There is no longer any doubt respecting the appropriation of the entire building in Trafalgar Square to the purposes of a National Gallery. The present Government have resolved to bring forward a full and comprehensive plan next year for the purpose of providing in this excellent site a building worthy of the nation, and of the purposes for which it will be designed. The Government can easily obtain the barracks in the rear of the gallery, and the public will not refuse the money to build barracks in a more open space."

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.—The annual meeting of the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland was opened at Bath, on Tuesday, under the presidency of the Lord Talbot de Malahide, and will extend till Tuesday next. It is one of the most successful meetings yet held by the institute, both as regards the influence and numbers of those attending it, and the objects of interest in the locality: Bath and its neighbourhood being very rich in archaeological remains.

OPERA, CONCERTS, AND NEW MUSIC.

MR. LUMLEY'S first season has come to a close. "God save the Queen" was sung the other night, the prices having been lowered by nearly a half for the stalls, and by more than a half for the pit; and Mademoiselle Spiezia's name no longer appears in the bills. Of course the termination of the major season is an affair altogether beyond Mr. Lumley's control. When the House adjourns, and the Academy Exhibition is dispersed, and people forsake the park, and the shutters are closed in the large houses of Belgrave, Tisbury, and Kensington Gore, it is expected that Mr. Lumley should shut up too. Mr. Lumley does shut up just to save appearances, but he only goes out of town for three days—from Saturday to Tuesday—and then keeps open house again, in spite of Parliament, the Royal Academy, and the fashionable world. Besides, the two seasons are an old tradition at her Majesty's Theatre. Only formerly the minor season took place before the major; it was inferior to it in interest and in the quality of the performances, and the prices were the same. Now, one season is, as regards the performers and the performances, almost identical with the other (certainly the disappearance of Mademoiselle Spiezia, shabbily treated as she appears to have been, cannot be looked upon as a loss), while there is a notable diminution in the charges for admission.

The last "novelty" of the regular season was the "Lucia," which was played for the first time this year on Thursday, for Giuglini's benefit. Giuglini's Edgardo is one of his best parts in a musical sense, but he scarcely acts it better than that of Gennaro in "Lucrezia," and in a histrionic point of view Giuglini's Gennaro is the worst but one we ever saw. The tameness of the Edgardo is rendered more apparent by the unnatural vivacity of Mlle. Piccolomini as Lucia. Mlle. Piccolomini is even more unlike the gentle, sentimental, melancholy heroine of Sir Walter Scott than she is to any other of the characters of her too-numerous repertoire. This "fascinating" young lady, as it is still to some extent the fashion to style her, seldom seems to understand the part she is playing. But there is certainly this to be said in her favour, that if she were to attempt to make herself like Lucia, she might fail; whereas, by adopting the easy method of making Lucia exactly like Mlle. Piccolomini, she is sure to succeed. This system of bringing the mountain to Mahomet instead of taking Mahomet to the mountain, is also observable in Mlle. Piccolomini's execution of the music of "Lucia," and indeed in that of nearly all the music she sings. In the air of the third act, some of the passages are too difficult for the vocalist. She does not omit the air, but she sings the air so slowly that half the difficulty of the difficult passages disappears. It is true that the music loses somewhat of its effect, but that is the affair of the late Donizetti, and not of the singer.

However, taking Mademoiselle Piccolomini's performance altogether, we think we may say that it exhibits some improvement since last season. Her acting is somewhat toned down, and the objectionable features are not quite so salient as formerly. Miss Ashton had certainly no right to be so affectionate as she was wont to be (under the auspices of Mademoiselle Piccolomini) in the scene with her lover at the end of the first act. When young ladies of Miss Ashton's position in society, and above all of her temperament, allow themselves a lover at all, they, at least, do not give way to their feelings, and throw themselves round his neck as Mademoiselle Piccolomini was, and to a certain extent is now, in the habit of doing. Signor Giuglini, who is a lover of much propriety, feels the awkwardness of his position, and evidently endeavours by his very commendable coldness to keep the young lady at a distance, but unfortunately without success.

Mademoiselle Piccolomini is seen to most advantage in the scene with her brother and in the finale to the second act. This admirable finale, the most dramatic piece of music Donizetti ever wrote, is far better executed, as far as the orchestra and chorus are concerned, than it was last year, and Mademoiselle Piccolomini still acts with considerable energy and feeling. It is, of course, on the side of energy that she errs, indeed it may be said (in the Hibernian style) that energy is her weak point. She sings with energy, acts with energy, above all, sobs and runs about with energy, and if she has to fall, she even falls with energy. When Edgardo, pointing to her signature, asks whether that writing is hers, and afterwards dismisses her with a gesture of contempt, she goes over like a nine-pin, as if her lover had actually knocked her down. Now, to knock a young lady

down merely for inability, and that "with extenuating circumstances," is the sort of thing Signor Giuglini as Lucia would never think of doing. In fact, he would for the slightest possible reason, and he is by no means lacking in sympathy with the heroine, who is only too ready to feel for the lover who by his apparent inability merits all her pity.

In the final scene, Mlle. Piccolomini's performance is certainly not without merit, but it is not so good as her performance in the scene with her brother.

At the Royal Italian Opera, "Don Giovanni" is to be produced, on Tuesday, with this wonderful cast: Donna Anna, Gridi; Zerlina, Bosio; Elvira, Marrai; Don Giovanni, Marbo; Don Ottavio, Tamberlik; Leporello, Signor Ronconi. Signor Marbo, the composer of the "Tre Nozze," has altered the music to suit the requirements of Marbo and Ronconi, but we fancy the changes necessary must be very slight. With Ronconi as Leporello, we may expect the re-introduction of some gaiety and humour into the part of the valet, but by far the most interesting assumption of the evening will be that of "Don Giovanni," by Marbo. After "Don Giovanni" the directors announce Herold's "Zampa." Signor Tamberlik is announced as the tenor. Mlle. Parepa will, we believe, be the soprano.

Mr. Benedict's Grand Festival Concert at the Crystal Palace with Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Miss Stabbach, Miss Louisa Pyne, Madam Weiss, Miss Dolby and Madame Gassier, Herr Dick, Mr. Weiss and Mr. Sims Reeves, attracted a very numerous audience, and was in every respect successful. Miss Arabella Goddard played a solo ("Home, sweet home"), and also took part in Bach's triple concerto. The only absolute novelty, to English ears, was the "Sanctus," by Bortniansky, a Russian composer of church music, whose works are chiefly known to France and England through the writings of Berlioz. We did not hear it, but the "Times" describes it as "impressive."

The Swedish singers, who are now giving a series of performances in a miserable little whitewashed, utterly unfurnished, and thoroughly dismal room, attached to the magnificent St. James's Hall, are well worth hearing. The genuine Scandinavian melodies are very fine, and the nine gentlemen who execute them have not only fine voices, but sing well together and with excellent expression. The songs are without accompaniment, the only instrument made use of being the tuning-fork. The costumes of the singers are curiously varied, and may be pronounced more picturesque than characteristic. Each Swede has a different dress, the only thing common to all being the substitution of unmentionables for mentionables (trousers, we believe, can be mentioned). This Swedish entertainment, in combination with others, would, we are sure, be highly successful; but by themselves, even with the aid of an accomplished and interesting young lady who plays the violin, to say nothing of a gentleman who annoys us with an "ear-piercing" flute, the Scandinavian singers have really no chance.

Luisa Miller. Arranged for the Pianoforte. Boosey and Son. This is the last of Messrs. Boosey's pianoforte editions of popular operas. The arrangement is easy, and as much as possible in accordance with the score.

1. *Qui sola, vergin rosa*; 2. *M'appari tutt' amor*; 3. *Chimera*; 4. *Il tuo stral nel lanciar*; 5. *Il mio Lionel*. (Boosey and Son.) These are the five most popular airs from "Martha." No. 1 is Flotow's arrangement of the "Last Rose of Summer," so admirably sung by Madame Bosio. No. 2 is Maria's air, which is more of a drawing-room than of a scenic character, though always encoored on the stage. No. 3 is Graziani's spirited beer song, also nightly encoored. No. 4 is the lively aria which Flotow wrote specially for Mademoiselle Didié; and No. 5 is the sentimental ballad with which the composer has favoured Graziani.

LAW AND CRIME.

A NOTORIOUS quack, known as Doctor Sutton, but described as an assistant to a medical practitioner, appeared before Mr. Commissioner Murphy, in order to take the benefit of the Insolvent Act. The insolvent had been assistant to one Sidney Hall, now in Canada, who had, it was said, given him permission to carry on the business. It came out that the insolvent had received £10 from one of his patients, who had subsequently given him a promissory note for £150, which note the "Doctor" had subsequently been induced to return. Every one knows the kind of business to which such transactions as these we have detailed form an index. There is in London and in every provincial town a set of advertising pseudo-medical men, who contrive to make known their existence by means of certain unscrupulous journals, circulating among the less informed classes, by the distribution in our thoroughfares of offensive hand-bills, and by other methods still less choice. Their qualifications are delusive and baseless, their capabilities contemptible, and their sole object extortion of the most cruel and villainous kind. Every now and then, one of the gang, passing under the name of two or three, figures in some scoundrelly transaction brought under public notice. The police can do much against these fellows by checking their means of advertising; but the only real remedy against their nefarious practices would be a stringent measure of medical reform.

A circular purporting to emanate from the office of Mr. Fr. Fabricius, banker, Frankfurt-on-the-Maine, has been sent to us. It comprises the prospectus of the "Royal Saxon Lottery," 51th issue, guaranteed by the Government, composed of 62,000 shares, and comprising 31,000 prizes. These prizes (exactly as will be seen, half the entire number of the shares) range from the highest of 150,000 dollars (of 3s. 1½d. value each) to the lowest of 65 dollars or £10 3s. 1½d., while the price of a share is only £2 English. But the aggregate value of the prizes promised is openly announced to be £127,500. Now, as the amount to be realised by the sale of the 62,000 shares, at £2 each, can only be £124,000, it will be at once apparent that either the financial department of Saxony is conducted upon most ruinous principles, or that the circular pretending to emanate from Mr. Fr. Fabricius, banker, Frank-

furt, is a forgery, and that "with extenuating circumstances," it is the sort of thing Signor Giuglini as Lucia would never think of doing.

In fact, he would for the slightest possible reason, and he is by no means lacking in sympathy with the heroine, who is only too ready to feel for the lover who by his apparent inability merits all her pity.

In the final scene, Mlle. Piccolomini's performance is certainly not without merit, but it is not so good as her performance in the scene with her brother.

At the Royal Italian Opera, "Don Giovanni" is to be produced, on Tuesday, with this wonderful cast: Donna Anna, Gridi; Zerlina, Bosio; Elvira, Marrai; Don Giovanni, Marbo; Don Ottavio, Tamberlik; Leporello, Signor Ronconi. Signor Marbo, the composer of the "Tre Nozze," has altered the music to suit the requirements of Marbo and Ronconi, but we fancy the changes necessary must be very slight.

With Ronconi as Leporello, we may expect the re-introduction of some gaiety and humour into the part of the valet, but by far the most interesting assumption of the evening will be that of "Don Giovanni," by Marbo. After "Don Giovanni" the directors announce Herold's "Zampa." Signor Tamberlik is announced as the tenor. Mlle. Parepa will, we believe, be the soprano.

Mr. Benedict's Grand Festival Concert at the Crystal Palace with Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Miss Stabbach, Miss Louisa Pyne, Madam Weiss, Miss Dolby and Madame Gassier, Herr Dick, Mr. Weiss and Mr. Sims Reeves, attracted a very numerous audience, and was in every respect successful. Miss Arabella Goddard played a solo ("Home, sweet home"), and also took part in Bach's triple concerto. The only absolute novelty, to English ears, was the "Sanctus," by Bortniansky, a Russian composer of church music, whose works are chiefly known to France and England through the writings of Berlioz. We did not hear it, but the "Times" describes it as "impressive."

The Swedish singers, who are now giving a series of performances in a miserable little whitewashed, utterly unfurnished, and thoroughly dismal room, attached to the magnificent St. James's Hall, are well worth hearing. The genuine Scandinavian melodies are very fine, and the nine gentlemen who execute them have not only fine voices, but sing well together and with excellent expression. The songs are without accompaniment, the only instrument made use of being the tuning-fork. The costumes of the singers are curiously varied, and may be pronounced more picturesque than characteristic. Each Swede has a different dress, the only thing common to all being the substitution of unmentionables for mentionables (trousers, we believe, can be mentioned). This Swedish entertainment, in combination with others, would, we are sure, be highly successful; but by themselves, even with the aid of an accomplished and interesting young lady who plays the violin, to say nothing of a gentleman who annoys us with an "ear-piercing" flute, the Scandinavian singers have really no chance.

Luisa Miller. Arranged for the Pianoforte. Boosey and Son. This is the last of Messrs. Boosey's pianoforte editions of popular operas. The arrangement is easy, and as much as possible in accordance with the score.

1. *Qui sola, vergin rosa*; 2. *M'appari tutt' amor*; 3. *Chimera*; 4. *Il tuo stral nel lanciar*; 5. *Il mio Lionel*. (Boosey and Son.) These are the five most popular airs from "Martha." No. 1 is Flotow's arrangement of the "Last Rose of Summer," so admirably sung by Madame Bosio. No. 2 is Maria's air, which is more of a drawing-room than of a scenic character, though always encoored on the stage. No. 3 is Graziani's spirited beer song, also nightly encoored. No. 4 is the lively aria which Flotow wrote specially for Mademoiselle Didié; and No. 5 is the sentimental ballad with which the composer has favoured Graziani.

POLICE.

THE PERILS OF THE STREETS.—Brilliant Wicks, 21, St. James's Street, result on complainant, her sister, and her fifth child, and a woman named Margaret, and stealing her shawl, worth £1; and William Wicks, 21, St. James's Street, her husband, was charged with assisting the same.

Margaret Prendergill, of Wellington Street, Clarendon, 54, St. James's Street, on Monday night with her fifth child, and a woman named Margaret, and stealing her shawl, worth £1; and William Wicks, 21, St. James's Street, her husband, was charged with assisting the same.

Ellen Prendergill, corroborated the statement of her sister, and said that she had seen her husband, William Wicks, 21, St. James's Street, on Monday night with her fifth child, and a woman named Margaret, and stealing her shawl, worth £1; and William Wicks, 21, St. James's Street, her husband, was charged with assisting the same.

James McWilliam, 224, St. James's Street, on Monday night with her fifth child, and a woman named Margaret, and stealing her shawl, worth £1; and William Wicks, 21, St. James's Street, her husband, was charged with assisting the same.

Alderman Phillips remanded the prisoners till Friday, so that it might be made about them.

MURDEROUS OUTRAGE.—Richard Burgess, twenty, a tall young man, described as a labourer, was charged with stealing a silk handkerchief from a woman, and with feloniously cutting and wounding her, a constable and inspector of police on the London and Blackwall Railway, with intent to murder or do him grievous bodily harm.

The sailor, whose drunkenness was the cause of a valuable and well-known officer being seriously wounded and disabled, was first charged with drunkenness, and was fined 4s. He was then remanded as a witness.

It appeared that, on Sunday night, at half-past nine o'clock, the railway station at Blackwall was crowded, the attention of Mr. Rickett, station-master, was called to the prisoner by several persons, who said, "Here is a man robbing a sailor." Mr. Rickett found the prisoner in the corner of the station standing over Burgess, and drawing a silk handkerchief from his pocket. Mr. Rickett called Barry, the principal constable of the station. Barry told the prisoner that he had robbed the sailor of the handkerchief, and must give it up directly. The prisoner denied having the handkerchief about him, on which the constable seized him, and said, "You must go with me to the station-house." The prisoner immediately attacked the constable, and beat and kicked him unmercifully. Barry did not release the prisoner while he had life, on which he drew a large clasp-knife from his pocket, opened it, and cut Barry's throat. Barry called out, "He has cut my hand off," but still held on to the knife, who was about to plunge the knife into the officer's body when others came to his aid, took the knife from him, and secured him. One of the railway porters, while holding the prisoner down, handed the knife to some one in the crowd, he believed to a gentleman, but was afraid that one of the prisoners, who had obtained possession of the knife, Barry was conveyed to the hospital. He lost a large quantity of blood, and appeared in court very weakly, and with his arm bandaged.

Mr. Selfe thought it would be as well to recover the knife before the case was finally disposed of.

Mr. Hughes said, that a public notice of the case would no doubt cause the production of the knife, if it had fallen into good hands.

Mr. Selfe said, the evidence was ample, and remanded the prisoner until Friday.

Higgins, the sailor, who had identified the handkerchief taken from the prisoner as his property, asked the magistrate to remit the fine imposed upon him, and said he had been away from England ten months, and had lost his ship in the river on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Selfe refused to remit the fine, although the sailor had been ten months on board ship. He considered drunkenness at a railway station or upon a railway a most serious offence, attended with danger to the life of him who got drunk, and also to the lives of passengers. In this case the sailor's drunkenness had caused a robbery and a murderous outrage to be committed.

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